

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
12 February 2001

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations**2001 regular session**

7-25 May 2001

**Quadrennial reports, 1997-2000 submitted through the
Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social
Council resolution 1996/31****Contents**

	<i>Page</i>
1. Adventist Development and Relief Agency	2
2. Equality Now	4
3. Indigenous World Association	7
4. International Black Sea Club	8
5. International Confederation of Christian Family Movements	9
6. International Islamic Charitable Organization	11
7. International Planned Parenthood Federation	12
8. League of Women Voters of the United States	14
9. Qatar Charitable Society	17
10. World Vision International	18



1. Adventist Development and Relief Agency

General consultative status granted in 1997

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1956 to empower communities to address problems resulting from crisis or chronic distress. ADRA aims to achieve positive change through a portfolio of sustainable development and relief activities which are planned and implemented cooperatively. Portfolio areas include food security, primary health care, economic development, education, and disaster preparedness and response, and are performed in collaboration with local communities, local and international organizations and government agencies through information-sharing, participation in conferences, and field-level cooperation. ADRA is not affiliated with any non-governmental organization already in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

ADRA is a global network of over 130 ADRA offices (donor country, recipient country, and regional offices), backstopped by ADRA International. Network members (offices) operate in accordance with ADRA International statement of mission and work to fulfil the agency's charter through a portfolio of development and relief activities. The country office is the primary implementing entity in the ADRA network. All other entities (regional, donor, ADRA International) function as support services for the implementing country offices. These offices bear the primary responsibility for programme design, management, monitoring, and evaluation. Country offices are governed by country-level Boards of Directors, which provide strategic direction and review, make financial decisions bearing on the country offices, and decide on matters pertaining to staffing.

Since 1997, ADRA International has been increasingly active with the United Nations. Initial involvement was in the form of regular attendance at monthly meetings of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (formerly, Department of Humanitarian Assistance). As a regularly represented non-governmental organization, ADRA provided continual active support to the ongoing assessment and dialogue on how humanitarian development and relief agencies communicate with the Office and each other to provide coordinated response to humanitarian emergencies as they arise around the world. ADRA was active in sharing its experiences with other agencies present at the monthly meetings, resulting in increased mutual involvement with cutting-edge issues in humanitarian emergencies.

ADRA also had representation at:

- (a) Earth Summit, 23-27 June 1997;
- (b) General Assembly special session on the world drug problem, 8-10 June 1998;
- (c) General Assembly special session on population and development, 30 June-2 July 1999;
- (d) Fifty-second annual DPI-NGO Conference, 15-17 September 1999;
- (e) 1999 Seoul International Conference of NGOs;
- (f) Millennium Assembly and Summit in 2000.

In addition to these major meetings, ADRA has maintained involvement in the ongoing dialogue on issues such as development, relief, world hunger, landmines, economic development trends, refugee and internally displaced persons (IDP) issues, women's issues, food security, education, and disaster response.

ADRA is also an actively participating agency with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Since early 1998, ADRA has been present at all of the UNHCR Executive Committee Standing Committee meetings. In cooperation with the International Conference of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) and InterAction, ADRA has joined with other international humanitarian organizations to give counsel to provide information feedback and engage in dialogue with UNHCR at local, regional and international levels. Currently, ADRA is actively working towards the signing of a framework agreement with UNHCR which will more clearly outline a mutual commitment to the alleviation of the plight of the world's refugees and internally displaced persons and improve the communication of financial and policy information for stronger working relationships at the field level.

In 1997, ADRA signed a global memorandum of understanding with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). Since then ADRA has been present at every annual review meeting in Rome. ADRA was asked to be a regular non-governmental organization observer at the WFP Annual Board and at its accompanying working sessions. At present, ADRA is involved in the drafting of a local country framework agreement which will serve as a model for specific country-level memoranda of understanding between local WFP offices and non-governmental organization country offices.

In addition to UNHCR and WFP, ADRA works closely with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Centre for Settlement (UNCHS), the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNCHR) and the World Health Organization (WHO) at field and international levels. ADRA is also in continuing dialogue with the World Bank for a closer cooperation between non-governmental organizations and World Bank initiatives.

ADRA is a member agency of CONGO and continues to be involved in CONGO activities, including board meetings and the CONGO General Assembly, recently held in Vienna, Austria.

In 1999 ADRA established an office near the United Nations in New York. This will allow representatives of the agency to have more consistent access to the pulse and information flow of the United Nations system. In addition to the representation in New York, ADRA has representatives in Geneva and Vienna who can maintain close cooperation with activities there. ADRA has also assigned local personnel at the headquarters of all of the economic commissions.

2. Equality Now

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Equality Now is an international human rights organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of women's rights around the world. Equality Now's mission is to end violence and discrimination against women and to gain universal recognition of women's rights as human rights through the mobilization of public pressure. With this in mind, the following long-term goals for the organization were outlined:

- (a) To campaign for the reform of law and practices that discriminate against women;
- (b) To contribute towards the global campaign to end violence against women;
- (c) To promote the equal partnership of women in decision-making.

Issues of concern to Equality Now include trafficking in women, rape, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, denial of reproductive rights, and other forms of violence and discrimination against women which result in the degradation, enslavement, injury and death of girls and women every day. Equality Now documents violations of these rights and, through its international Women's Action Network, adds an international action component to support local and national efforts on behalf of women's rights and on behalf of individual women who are suffering human rights violations.

The Women's Action Network is the core of Equality Now. The Network consists of almost 10,000 groups and individuals in more than 100 countries around the world who take action in response to appeals on behalf of individual women, participate in campaigns on broader women's issues, and channel information on the status of women and violations of women's rights in their countries back through the Network. Appropriate actions designed to stop abuses or to implement effective preventive or remedial measures are addressed to Governments as well as, in some cases, non-governmental entities and individuals.

Beijing +5 campaign

In July 1999, Equality Now launched a year-long campaign to highlight the importance of accountability for the commitments made by Governments at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995). The Beijing +5 campaign focused on institutionalized gender discrimination in national laws to illustrate the failure by Governments to honour commitments made in the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted in Beijing, as well as other international legal agreements signed and ratified by those Governments. With the participation of national and local women's groups around the world, Equality Now researched and compiled selected texts of gender discriminatory laws and issued Women's Action 16.1, a report highlighting a cross-section of laws in 45 countries that discriminate against women with regard to personal status, marital status, economic status and violence against women. Twenty-eight groups from 25 countries, as well as regional groups representing Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Europe, partnered with Equality Now in this campaign. Several of the groups are working actively to

change the laws highlighted in the report as well as other discriminatory laws in their countries. The campaign called upon Governments to repeal or amend those laws prior to the Beijing +5 special session as a show of genuine commitment to the Platform for Action.

In addition to distributing the report to United Nations treaty-based bodies (such as the Human Rights Committee, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights), members of the international media and the Women's Action Network, Equality Now also sent the report to the heads of State of the countries highlighted in it and to their permanent representatives to the United Nations. Equality Now also sent representatives to ensure that the campaign was raised at each of the regional preparatory conferences, in Bangkok, Addis Ababa, Geneva, Beirut and Lima, and to the final preparatory conference in New York. Equality Now also raised the campaign in individual meetings with United Nations missions.

As part of the campaign, Equality Now organized a briefing at the United Nations on 11 October 1999, co-sponsored by the Group on Equal Rights for Women in order to familiarize government representatives with the report.

During the special session, as with the final preparatory conference, Equality Now facilitated the participation of international activists and organized and coordinated the attendance of activists from 21 countries in East and Central Europe. Equality Now also organized several events which focused on a performance piece entitled "Women Can't Wait!". Commissioned by Equality Now and written and performed by Sarah Jones, the piece brings to life the impact of discriminatory laws on the lives of women and girls around the world. The response to the piece was overwhelmingly positive, and subsequent media coverage highlighted the special session and the significance of the negotiations regarding discriminatory laws. Equality Now also held a press conference at the United Nations on 6 June with several of its campaign supporters and, throughout the week, met with representatives from women's groups in several countries and began collaboration with them on upcoming Women's Actions, including women's suffrage in Kuwait and honour killings in Jordan. Equality Now also presented a special performance for delegates in Conference Room 4, with an introduction by actress Gwyneth Paltrow and several open performances at Customs House.

Equality Now lobbied government delegates and non-governmental organization representatives to ensure that provisions providing for the repeal of discriminatory laws remained in the official version of the outcome document. Equality Now also suggested language for the combined non-governmental organization coalition document. Equality Now representatives also participated in the NGO consultation on 4 March 2000 and in several of the issue-based and regional caucuses.

Report for the Division for the Advancement of Women

In December 1997, Equality Now was recruited by the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat to serve as the international non-governmental organization to coordinate a global project on domestic violence against women, funded by UNIFEM. The project involved five

regional studies prepared by experts from the regions, who compiled information about new strategies and an evaluation of their impact. The overall objective of the project was to direct Governments, regional bodies, and civil society towards effective strategies at the national level. Drafts of the regional studies were prepared, and a meeting of the regional experts was held at the Division in August 1998. Subsequent revisions of the studies were made, and the final report will be published by the United Nations shortly.

Human Rights Committee

Since March 1995, Equality Now has been working to bring human rights violations against women to the attention of the Human Rights Committee. Working with women's rights groups in countries up for review by the Committee, Equality Now brings issues relating to women's rights to the attention of members of the Committee. Increasingly, the issues that Equality Now is raising with the Committee are being raised, in turn, by members of the Committee directly with the government delegations which appear before them to present their reports on compliance.

To date, Equality Now has raised concerns relating to violence against women, legally sanctioned discrimination, and reproductive rights in conjunction with its consideration of reports from Yemen, the United States, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong Province of China, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Zambia, Peru, Brazil, Lebanon, Colombia, India, Senegal, Lithuania, Sudan, Uruguay, Zimbabwe, Ecuador, Israel, Algeria, United Republic of Tanzania, Japan, Armenia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lesotho, Cambodia, Chile, Poland, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Morocco, Cameroon and Mongolia.

Equality Now is the only women's rights group participating in the work of the Human Rights Committee on a regular basis, and many of the women's rights issues raised by Equality Now have been included in the Committee's concluding observations. Through its submissions, Equality Now has advanced several new arguments under international law relating to women and human rights. The Committee has taken note of these new arguments, and several of them have been incorporated into the Committee's work.

Jessica Neuwirth, President of the Board, spoke on a panel organized by the United Nations Development Programme, entitled Transforming Legislation: Challenges and Good Practices, held at the United Nations on 6 March 2000.

In September 2000, Equality Now held a screening of the documentary film "Crimes of Honor" for government and United Nations representatives at the United Nations and worked with the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to develop a resolution against honour crimes which was adopted by the General Assembly in October 2000.

3. Indigenous World Association

Special consultative status granted in 1985

The aims of the Indigenous World Association are to provide education in the application of international human rights initiatives, law and processes and to promote the rule of law domestically and internationally in relation to the rights of indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, and uprooted peoples, and to inform the concerned groups and the general public in various countries about the achievements and work of the United Nations system in those fields. The means of achieving these aims include: documentation and information in English and Spanish; organization of conferences, seminars, forums, and course curricula; emergency meetings on urgent situations; cooperation with other non-governmental organizations in the field; consultations with Governments, international and intergovernmental organizations and organs, with private institutions and religious bodies, regarding the rights of vulnerable peoples; participation in all relevant United Nations forums.

Since its founding the organization has sent indigenous delegations to the following annual United Nations meetings: Commission on Human Rights and its Working Group on the [indigenous] draft declaration; the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (formerly the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities), and its Working Group on Indigenous Populations, and the Working Group on Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, all held annually in Geneva. Included in the organization's delegations to those meetings are representatives of indigenous communities which the organization trains to work within the Council to promote the human rights of indigenous peoples. The first trainee was Rigoberta Menchú Tún, Quiche leader from Guatemala, later Nobel Laureate (1992) and Special United Nations Ambassador for the Year of the World's Indigenous People (1993) and the United Nations International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1995-2004). The co-director of the Indigenous World Association accompanied and trained Ms. Menchú during the relevant 1982-1983 meetings of the United Nations, including the eighteenth session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the first session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations; the 1982 session of the General Assembly and the 39th session of the Commission on Human Rights. The organization participated in the planning meetings in New York and Geneva for the Fourth World Conference on Women and sent five representatives from five Latin American, African and Asian countries to the Conference in Beijing (September 1995). It was instrumental in planning and operating the indigenous centre (tent) at the parallel NGO conference. The organization has made a priority the planning for the 2001 World Conference against Racism and sent a six-member delegation to the Americas Preparatory Committee meeting (Santiago, December 2000). The organization also participated in the activities surrounding the ongoing United Nations Decade for Indigenous Peoples.

The organization is included in the special list of non-governmental organizations which cooperate with the International Labour Organization in Geneva. Since its founding, the organization has cooperated closely with UNHCR, particularly in Central America and Mexico, observing the situation of indigenous refugees. The Co-Director of the organization was an honorary guest of UNHCR at its regional conference on Central American refugees.

The Indigenous World Association provides information to Governments and non-governmental organizations in support of all resolutions concerning indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, and migrant workers. The organization regularly consults and cooperates with various officials of the United Nations Secretariat, in particular at the United Nations offices in Geneva. It cooperated closely with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations during its tenure of existence. Since its founding, the Association has paid particular attention to the increase in indigenous communities becoming refugees in neighbouring countries or internally displaced within their own States. In this regard, the organization has cooperated with a number of institutions in field-level collaboration and joint sponsorship of meetings, seminars and studies, including the Refugee Studies Programme at the University of Oxford, the Latin American Studies Association, and the Secretariat of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues in Geneva. To promote education about indigenous refugees, the organization has contributed five articles to the UNHCR magazine, *Refugees*, on the history of indigenous displacement during the colonizations of the western hemisphere. Since most of the indigenous representatives of the organization hold doctorate or law diplomas and teach at the university level, Indigenous World Association also specializes in developing curricula and materials for higher education. The organization was invited to consult with The Global Center on its video project "Rights and Wrongs Educational Media Project", and the Co-Director of the Indigenous World Association is a member of its Advisory Board. The organization also consulted in 1998 on the prize-winning, full-length documentary film, "Blacks and Jews", produced by Snitow-Kaufman Productions and on their new documentary on ethnicity and class in the electronics industry.

The Indigenous World Association was instrumental in establishing the International Year of the World's Indigenous People (1993) and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1994-2004).

4. International Black Sea Club

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The International Black Sea Club (IBSC) was created in 1992 as an independent (non-governmental), voluntary, non-commercial, self-governing organization.

The aims and purposes of the Club are the following:

- (a) To combine the efforts of the cities (communities) of the Black Sea countries for solving common tasks related to the Black Sea coast;
- (b) To participate in programmes and projects for preserving the environmental equilibrium of the Black Sea coastal territory;
- (c) To organize an exchange of economic (commercial) information;
- (d) To assist the development of tourism;
- (e) To participate in national and international events on the use, study and preservation of the Black Sea;
- (f) To establish contacts between the economic units and governmental administrative bodies of the corresponding countries.

The Club undertook a number of projects on economic and cultural cooperation among the city-members. For example, in 1998 it organized a programme for shipping companies.

Representatives of the Club are working on a Black Sea encyclopaedic dictionary.

The Club also carried out some environmental programmes, and took part in the Meeting of Aquapolises (Piraeus, April 1997).

With the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Business Council, IBSC is participating in the project Black Sea Business Informational Net.

IBSC is in the process of creating an agency to attract investments.

In October 1998 a new structure of the Club was established — the International Black Sea Club Business Council (IBSC BC). Heads of Chambers of Commerce and industry and business circles from IBSC city-members were accepted as members of IBSC BC.

IBSC established a newspaper, *IBSC News*.

Club members adopted a number of appeals; for example, they appealed to the Congress of Local Authorities concerning support for municipalities;

IBSC city-members participated in the EC programme for Yugoslavian reconstruction, Balkan Stability.

During the period of 1997-2000 the International Black Sea Club did not participate in any United Nations events and projects, because of lack of information about United Nations activities. In 2000, IBSC received an invitation to take part in the Millennium Forum, and in the Women 2000 Forum. Unfortunately, representatives of IBSC were unable to attend those meetings.

5. International Confederation of Christian Family Movements

Special consultative status granted in 1989

The International Confederation of Christian Family Movements was formed in Caracas, Venezuela, in 1966 with the aim of helping its members to live their human and Christian vocations and bear witness to the essential values of families, based upon the Faith as announced by the Gospel and proposed by the teachings of the Catholic Church. The members are families who endure an ongoing training by participating in groups. These groups comprise an organization called Christian Family Movement (Movimiento Familiar Cristiano).

All groups meet on a bi-monthly or monthly basis. Each country holds meetings, to revise objectives, set new targets and elect new staff. Almost every country issues a newsletter at the national level. A bulletin called *Link* (*Lazo* in Spanish) is published internationally.

- **ACT No. 7, October 2000** — issued by the Christian Family Movement in North America.

- **El Movimiento Familiar Cristiano INFORMA** No. 66, December 2000 edited in Spain.

Activities

Europe

The continental meeting of the Christian Family Movement in Europe met in Braga (Portugal) in 1997. In September 1998, it attended the Landegg Academy University in Switzerland, and gave a talk on the family to students. It visited several Eastern European countries (Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia) to spread word of the Movement. In Prague, the first continental meeting of the Confederation in a former socialist country was held.

North America

In July 1999 the Christian Family Movement in the United States celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its foundation. Signs of growth are apparent in the north-west, south-west and Florida. It published the following books: *Families of Faith: Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future; The Second 25 years of the Christian Family Movement; Living the Jubilee: New Growth from Fallow Fields*.

The Movimiento Familiar Cristiano had its national convention in San Diego.

Africa

The Movement in Africa celebrated the International Day of the Family (15 May). It collaborated with the health programmes in Cameroon, where malaria has diminished. Members have embarked on self-help projects on small cocoa and coffee farms. The Movement met with Moslems to pray for peace and against national disasters.

Asia

All of the training programmes for couples, families, youth, priests, solo parents, engaged couples, young adults etc. are carried out at the parish level, especially in the Philippines. In November 2000, Tagaytay City (Manila) hosted the continental meeting of the Christian Family Movement, with six countries from Asia attending.

Latin America

In 1997 the members of the Movement met with Pope John Paul II in Rio de Janeiro. In 1998, at a meeting in Maceió, Brazil, the Board for Latin America set the plan for the coming years for strengthening the Christian Family Movement. Spirituality, Ethics and Justice are to be the pillars. In 1999 and 2000, the continental conventions were held, but split in three zones (north, central and south).

World assemblies

The Seventh World Assembly of Families and the Eleventh General Assembly of the International Confederation of Christian Family Movements held an assembly in Bangkok, Thailand, from 28 July to 2 August 1998. The theme was

"Humanization of all families in the world". Representatives of 22 countries attended.

The next World Assembly will be held in Maceió, Brazil, from 25 to 29 July 2001, with the theme "Ethics of life in a globalized and excluding world".

Cooperation with the United Nations

Due to lack of funds, the Confederation has not been able to attend the meetings of the Commission on Social Development in New York, although it is very interested in its decisions insofar as they affect the family. The Confederation has been asked to participate in UNICEF, but for the same reason, it finds it difficult to attend the sessions. The only thing it can do is to pass on to its members the communications and resolutions of the United Nations. No more active role is possible so far.

6. International Islamic Charitable Organization

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO) is an independent non-political multicultural worldwide philanthropy organization. Its activities are primarily in social, economic, educational, health, and cultural areas. The work is purely humanitarian, without any racial or ethnic distinction.

IICO does not simply raise funds and spend them but also works hard to ensure that the funds are raised and used effectively, and that the services it offers are tailored to meet the needs of those who are taking advantage of them. In addition to investing its funds in long-term projects, that generate maximum returns so as to secure permanent and stable resources for charities, IICO supports urgent relief programmes of food, shelter and medical supplies for refugees and victims of wars and disasters.

IICO participated in many meetings, seminars, and conferences of the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies such as UNHCR, UNESCO, and IFAD. The representative of IICO in the United States attended the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly — Women 2000 — which was held in New York in June 2000.

IICO conducted several studies with IFAD and took part in training and rehabilitation programmes in poor countries. IFAD participated in the planning and offered technical and financial support to the programmes. IICO participated in the seminars conducted by UNESCO for discussing the design of integrated training programmes in poor countries, and with ILO, through its office in Kuwait, coordinated programmes for professional training for the needy. Through its main office in Geneva and its office in Kuwait, IICO is fully cooperating with UNHCR in relief aid and preparedness for disasters.

IICO has a cooperation agreement with the International Islamic Education, Science and Culture Organization (IIESCO) and attended three of its sessions in Tunisia, Chad, and Jordan.

7. International Planned Parenthood Federation

General consultative status granted in 1973

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is the world's largest non-governmental organization working to advocate sexual and reproductive rights and provide quality reproductive health and family planning information and services. Working in more than 150 countries with hundreds of thousands of volunteers worldwide, the Federation works at all levels to increase support for sexual and reproductive health and family planning, collaborating worldwide with Governments, international non-governmental and community organizations.

IPPF has long had a close working relationship with many agencies and funds of the United Nations, at the national, regional and international levels, and has signed memorandums of understanding with a number of agencies. This report, covering the Federation's key contributions to international meetings and events, 1997-2000, is by no means an exhaustive report owing to the limitations of the reporting format.

ICPD+5

IPPF was actively involved in all stages of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly devoted to a review of the results of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD+5). IPPF was one of three non-governmental organizations to address the special session. In her statement the IPPF Director-General reiterated IPPF's firm belief that poverty alleviation and balanced population growth, along with sustainable development, human rights and global equality, were critical in the overall development process.

During ICPD+5 a series of "Face to Face" testimonies were organized by IPPF as part of the joint global advocacy campaign with UNFPA. The themes of the sessions included female genital mutilation (FGM), services of refugees, safe motherhood and HIV/AIDS.

IPPF's European network hosted a discussion during the Preparatory Committee sessions for delegates from European and developing countries, focusing on emergency contraception and adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

IPPF participated in the UNFPA expert roundtable meetings on youth, reproductive rights and the role of civil society, held in 1998, in preparation for ICPD+5.

More than 70 family planning associations were represented at The Hague Forum, and IPPF was a member of the NGO and Youth Advisory Groups, as well as the issue focal point for reproductive rights, with responsibility for organizing a panel discussion on rights at the NGO Forum. The IPPF President chaired the closing session of the NGO Forum.

Throughout 1998 and 1999 IPPF circulated a monthly ICPD+5 news bulletin to all partners and affiliates. An ICPD+5 section was set up on IPPF's Web site to provide updated coverage of the meetings and events. IPPF also organized a series

of ICPD+5 regional media seminars, to sensitize media and stimulate interest in issues of population and development.

Beijing +5

A reproductive rights wall chart 2000 was produced by IPPF for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (Beijing +5). It focused on the status of women's legal rights, especially those affecting their sexual and reproductive rights. A special edition of *X-press*, the IPPF youth newsletter, focusing on gender from a global youth perspective and including the Beijing +5 review, was published in English, French and Spanish. It included calls for a range of actions to be taken by the General Assembly. Also during the Beijing +5 session, IPPF issued two statements — one calling for global support for young people's sexual and reproductive rights and the other, prepared by IPPF's International Medical Advisory Panel (IMAP) on gender-based violence, calling for a widened campaign to end violence against women.

At Beijing +5 IPPF participated in the Global Women's Health Forum, was co-sponsored by the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), an affiliate of IPPF. The IPPF Assistant Director-General gave a presentation on safe motherhood and spoke about young people's needs with regard to sexual and reproductive health. An IPPF policy advisor was a speaker at another workshop, on reproductive health and rights at the Forum, and IPPF's film *Lifelines*, which illustrates the basic human rights featured in the IPPF Charter on Sexual and Reproductive Rights, was shown.

The Director of Sexual and Reproductive Health of the IPPF's western hemisphere regional office was the moderator of two parallel sessions at the Forum — one on gender-based violence and one on integrating gender into population and health programmes.

IPPF also took part in the panel discussion during Beijing +5 on "Early marriage: whose right to choose?". The panel was organized by UNICEF and a network of non-governmental organizations based in the United Kingdom, the Forum on Marriage and Rights of Women and Children, of which IPPF is one of the founding members.

At the regional level, IPPF's European Network participated in the ECE regional preparatory conference (Geneva, January 2000) and organized a workshop on "Women's sexual and reproductive health and rights" in the ECE region.

In the Arab world IPPF participated in the Second Arab Meeting on the Beijing Conference Follow-up (December 1998), organized by ESCWA and UNFPA and focusing on women, reproductive health and development. The region participated in a Beijing +5 consultative workshop to strengthen national capacity for the elimination of practices harmful to women in the eastern Mediterranean region. A regional consultation on gender and development was organized by the IPPF regional office in September 2000 to plan regional activities in the light of the Beijing +5 recommendations.

Copenhagen+5

Representatives from IPPF participated at the Copenhagen+5 special session (Geneva, 2000) and disseminated IPPF's position vis-à-vis issues of population, development and sexual and reproductive health.

Commission on the Status of Women/Commission on Population and Development

IPPF regularly sends representatives to observe and contribute, where appropriate, to the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and Commission on Population and Development.

8. League of Women Voters of the United States

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Mission and principles

The League of Women Voters (LWV), a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. National LWV activities are coordinated and staffed by two distinct but complementary organizations. The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) is the political advocacy and membership organization; the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF), established in 1957, is the citizen education and research organization.

The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States. The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible. The League believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination. It believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government. It believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.

LWV has chapters in every state in the United States and has approximately 1,000 local chapters in communities across the country. It has over 130,000 members and supporters in the United States. Local LWV members feel a special commitment to inform their communities about the United Nations and the work it accomplishes and to urge financial support for the United Nations. In order to help local LWVs to do this, its United Nations observers write articles for the LWV magazine.

The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

Activities relating to the work of the Council

Observers from LWV participated in the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Beijing + 5 special session of the General Assembly as well as their preparations. Its observers attended all of the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women after the Beijing Conference, and spoke to many members of the Commission and other governmental delegates about the needs of the girl child, women and mental health issues. Working with the members of NGO coalitions, wording on these issues was drafted and suggested to government delegates. Some wording was adopted by the delegates and used in outcome documents or other documents.

LWV was one of the co-sponsors of a United States regional conference, organized by the President's Interagency Council of Women, entitled Women 2000: Beijing Plus Five (6 November 1999, Wilmington, Delaware), to prepare for the upcoming special session of the General Assembly.

The League of Women Voters of the United States joined several other non-governmental organizations in signing a written statement on behalf of the girl child which was presented at the Commission on the Status of Women session in March 2000. It was accredited to attend and sent its observers to the special session of the General Assembly on gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century, which took place in June 2000.

Activities relating to United Nations agencies

A special interest of the LWV observers at the United Nations has been the Steering Committee for the NGO Committee for UNICEF and its Working Group on Girls, which works to focus the attention of world Governments on the plight of girls. It held caucus meetings daily at United Nations conferences and meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women. The Working Group formed a world-wide advocacy network working on behalf of the girl child and used information obtained from the network to prepare reports on the situation of girls which were presented to delegates at United Nations meeting. LWV was accredited to attend the preparatory meetings for the General Assembly special session in 2001 on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children. LWV observers attended the first session of the Preparatory Committee and intend to attend the remaining sessions. LWV observers worked with a caucus on the rights of the child and provided input to UNICEF on wording for the preparatory document.

Other Activities

In September 1997, the president of the League of Women Voters spoke at the DPI/NGO annual conference. In 1997 and 1998, one of the LWV observers served as secretary of the DPI/NGO Executive Committee and contributed a great deal to

the work of the Committee. The LWV observers also contribute to the work of several CONGO committees. The LWV United Nations observers attend the DPI briefings, meetings of the United States Committee for UNIFEM, and United States Mission briefings. One of the observers served on the Board of the New York chapter of the United States Committee for UNIFEM.

Promoting democracy

The goal of the LWV programmes for promoting democracy in America is to promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive; that protects individual liberties established by the Constitution and that assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision-making.

Internationally, the LWV's Global Democracy Initiative (GDI) is a three-part training programme for grassroots women leaders in emerging democracies. It brings women leaders from around the world to the United States for intensive training giving participants the opportunity to experience the LWV's non-partisan, grassroots approach to citizen involvement in democratic politics. Grassroots Partnership Training programmes allow participants to move into the role of trainers and conduct workshops for diverse activists in their home countries. Workshops explore grassroots civic education techniques and organizational development skills. With the Grassroots Assistance Grants Programme, LWV provides financial and technical assistance to interns for independently developed projects.

Targeting women as increasingly powerful voices in demanding accountability and good government in their societies, GDI expands community influence in public policy-making processes while building women's leadership skills through interactive, hands-on training and exchange programmes.

Through its international training and exchange programmes, LWV has assisted a variety of grassroots leaders and organizations in Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Balkans, Africa, and the newly independent States. LWV programmes have given concrete skills such as media outreach, educational campaign development, advocacy, strategic planning and volunteer management to participants.

Promoting United Nations funding in the United States Congress

LWV actively supported the establishment of the United Nations in 1945 and has been one of its most steadfast proponents for more than 50 years. LWV is an active member of the Council of Organizations of the United Nations Association/USA, and one of the LWV observers served as chair of its New York Council. LWV believes that the United States should pay its obligations to the United Nations expeditiously and without restrictions. As part of a diverse, bipartisan coalition in support of the United Nations, LWV has lobbied key members of Congress on payment of United States arrears to the United Nations and activated key state Leagues on the issue. The League of Women Voters made a statement at the 1999 Candlelight Vigil for the United Nations to urge fulfilment of United States financial obligations to the United Nations (23 October 1999).

9. Qatar Charitable Society

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Qatar Charitable Society is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-political society, Qatar-based, established in the early 1980s under the name Qatar Committee for Orphans. Due to the expansion of its services, the founders resolved to expand the aims and objectives and transformed the Committee into the present Qatar Charitable Society.

The aims and objectives of the Society centre on social, financial, health and educational services, including vocational training to orphans and widows. These were later extended to students, teachers and the disabled. The Society is involved in income-generating activities for poor families, provision of water and sanitation services, and emergency relief services mainly for refugees and communities hit by disaster.

Another activity is the Muslim-related provision of free meals during the month of fasting (Ramdan) and the distribution of sacrificial animals (a sacred Muslim act). The Society provides the same for non-Muslims living in the vicinity of Muslims.

The Society also engages in other charitable services, mainly the construction of hospitals, clinics and schools and, wherever possible, the provision of medical equipment to the newly built or existing facilities.

Women receive great attention from the Society, stemming from its services to windows. The Society established a parallel women's branch, active in the advocacy of women's issues, women's education, social services and income generation.

The Society's membership has increased to 60 members. It has built up a field presence in 48 countries worldwide.

The Society is a member of the following regional and international bodies: International Islamic Council for Dawa and Relief (Cairo); Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Rabat); Arab Network for NGOs (Cairo); International Islamic Charitable Organization (Kuwait); and Gulf Disability Society (Bahrain).

The Society is affiliated and has good relations with the Arab Gulf Fund for the United Nations Development Programme (AGFUND) and the Islamic Development Bank.

The Society had little relation with United Nations agencies before it was recognized by the Council in 1997 and by UNHCR in 1998. Since then the Society has held a number of working meetings with UNHCR in Geneva, Riyadh and Doha, which resulted in the following joint activities:

- (a) A representative of the Society attended the UNHCR Executive Committee meeting in March 1999 at Geneva;
- (b) A framework agreement for operational partnership between UNHCR and the Society was signed in March 1999 at Geneva;

(c) The Society assisted the UNHCR shelter, water and sanitation projects for Chechen refugees and displaced persons in Ingushetia with an amount totalling US\$ 600,500 during 1999-2000;

(d) The Society participated in funding UNICEF water and sanitation projects for Chechen displaced persons in Ingushetia with a total of US\$ 250,000;

(e) A joint UNHCR and Qatar Charitable Society workshop on law for the protection of refugees was convened (Doha, 17-18 October 2000) and was attended by local non-governmental organizations and representatives from Kuwait and Bahrain non-governmental organizations;

(f) A cooperation agreement between UNHCR and the Society was signed at Doha on 18 October 2000;

(g) Meetings were held between UNHCR and the Society's Kosovo office to work out joint project proposals for funding and joint implementation for the year 2001;

(h) The Society earmarked US\$ 250,000 for continuing the water and sanitation services for the Chechen internally displaced persons;

(i) The Society allocated US\$ 96,500 for the rehabilitation of the Barevo (Bosnia) village clinic and school, in response to a UNHCR appeal;

(j) A Society staff member, chosen by the UNHCR Riyadh office, attended a United Nations staff college training course in early warning and preventive measures (Dubai, September 2000);

(k) A Society representative participated in a workshop on building non-governmental organizations' capacities towards fulfilling and following up on the global conferences resolutions (Cairo, 19-21 September 2000), organized by ESCWA and the Arab League;

(l) The Society adviser attended the Social Summit and also participated in the Geneva 2000 Forum (Geneva, June 2000);

(m) The Society received an ESCWA consultant on social development.

The Society believes, that its endeavours to alleviate poverty and care for the needy, especially orphaned refugee children and widowed mothers, and to provide clean water, healthcare, emergency relief and education is nothing other than putting many United Nations resolutions into effect.

At present the Society is engaged in advocating networking with the internationally active Gulf non-governmental organizations, for which a preparatory committee was chosen, headed by the Society. Its secretariat is hosted by the Society.

10. World Vision International

Special consultative status granted in 1985

World Vision is one of the world's largest recipients of donated funds from the general public for relief, development and advocacy activities. The implementation of its programmes draws World Vision into direct partnership with United Nations

agencies in developing States and at the international level. World Vision contributes to United Nations forums, events and consultation processes. In the period since 1997 World Vision has been actively involved in some of the most high-profile United Nations events relating to development, including the People's Millennium Forum, the special session of the General Assembly on social development (Geneva 2000), and World HIV/AIDS conferences. Activities at these high-profile events have, however, been complemented by ongoing daily cooperation through forums such as the Board of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and the Executive Board of the World Health Organization.

Aims and purposes

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy partnership which serves more than 70 million people in 87 countries. World Vision works with the poor and oppressed in the pursuit of justice and human transformation. World Vision recognizes that poverty is not inevitable. Its mission statement calls it to challenge the unjust structures that constrain the poor. World Vision desires that all people should be able to reach their God-given potential, and thus its vision is to work for a world that no longer tolerates poverty.

Participation in United Nations events, conferences and processes

In 1997 World Vision representatives participated in the meeting of the Steering Group of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). World Vision also provided a panellist for a joint United Nations Centre for Human Rights/WHO workshop during the annual meeting of the Commission on Human Rights. World Vision participated in a joint WTO/Trade and Development Board symposium on trade and development. World Vision provided an article for UNAIDS to mark World AIDS Day. In 1998 staff participated in meetings of the Commission on Human Rights (May, Geneva) and the Second Ministerial Conference of the WTO (April, Geneva). It also took part in the twelfth World AIDS Conference (July, Geneva). In January 1999 World Vision participated in the intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on Human Rights of Migrants, organized by UNHCR. In March 1999 World Vision contributed to the Round Table Conference on Women and Health (Geneva). World Vision was represented at the World Health Assembly (May, Geneva). In June 1999 World Vision participated in the ILO Annual Assembly and provided input through child-caucuses towards the adoption of a new child labour convention. In the same month World Vision contributed to a global consultation globalized by WHO on the eradication of poliomyelitis. In November 1999 World Vision was represented at the ministerial meetings of the WTO in Seattle. In December 1999 World Vision also participated in a WHO conference on Pharmaco-vigilance and Related Ethical Issues. In February 2000 World Vision was represented at the tenth meeting of UNCTAD in Bangkok and was one of the non-governmental organizations to address the plenary. In March World Vision participated in the UNESCO Symposium on a Culture of Peace. In May World Vision participated in the People's Millennium Forum in New York and was represented at the follow-up meeting to the (Beijing) Fourth World Conference on Women. This representation included enabling youth participants to attend from developing States. In June 2000, World Vision participated in the

special session of the General Assembly on social development (Geneva) to review the progress made since the conference in Copenhagen in 1995. World Vision organized two workshops as part of the Forum on the issues of child rights and development assistance. In 2000 World Vision cooperated extensively with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on children in armed conflict in organizing an NGO consultation in New York, in March and taking part in an NGO "Arria Formula" briefing to the Security Council in August. In September World Vision organized a workshop as part of the agenda of the annual general meetings of the meetings of the World Bank and IMF. In November 2000 World Vision participated in the Vienna meetings of CONGO.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In February 1997 World Vision became the first chair of the newly formed International NGO Forum for Health, which partners with WHO. World Vision also participated in board meetings of the NGO Committee of UNICEF in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000. World Vision provided substantial input to the process of identifying and implementing possible reforms of that Committee. World Vision also participated in Preparatory Committee meetings associated with UNCTAD X, the special sessions of the General Assembly for children, and will participate in the forthcoming conference on the least developed countries. World Vision has participated annually in the Standing Committee of UNHCR and the Executive Board of WHO. In June 1999 World Vision participated in the NGO Board meeting of UNCTAD in Geneva. In May 2000 World Vision participated in the General Management Board meetings of UNAIDS and also the annual conference of the ILO. World Vision regularly attends NGO briefings conducted by the Department of Public Information and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva and New York.

Action in support of United Nations resolutions or of another collaborative nature

World Vision participates in a range of coalitions that seek to support United Nations resolutions and conventions, particularly the Convention on the Rights of the Child. World Vision is a member of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Steering Committee of the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, and it has status as an international ecumenical organization with the World Council of Churches. World Vision has contributed research and analysis to United Nations processes to increase public awareness on such issues as child labour, trade, debt forgiveness, conflict prevention, children in armed conflict, children in development and the World Bank's Initiative on Poverty Reduction.

**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General
5 April 2001
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2001 regular session**Quadrennial reports, 1994-1997 and 1995-1998, submitted
through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and
Social Council resolution 1996/31****Contents**

	<i>Page</i>
1. Airports Council International	2
2. Colombian Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations	4
3. Goodwill Industries International	5
4. International Chamber of Shipping	7
5. International Co-operative Alliance	9
6. International Union for the Scientific Study of Population	12
7. Junior Chamber International	14
8. Muslim World League	15
9. Pan-African Women's Organization	17
10. Union internationale des avocats	20



1. Airports Council International

Special consultative status granted in 1974

Introduction

The Airports Council International (ACI) — formerly, Airports Association Council International — is the association of the world's airports. It is a non-profit organization, the prime purpose of which is to foster cooperation among its member airports and with other partners in world aviation, including governmental, airline and aircraft manufacturing organizations. Through this cooperation, ACI makes a significant contribution to providing the travelling public with an air transport system that is safe, secure, efficient and environmentally compatible. Before the establishment of ACI in January 1991, the world's airports were represented on the international scene by the Airport Associations Coordinating Council (AACC), which had been created in 1970 by the then three international airport associations: the Airport Operators Council International (AOCI); the International Civil Airports Association (ICAA); and the Western European Airports Association (WEAA). The decision to create ACI, which incorporated the previous airport associations and succeeded AACC, was taken in 1989.

ACI's broad areas of activity include: airport safety; airport planning, design and operation; aviation security; airport economics; facilitation and services; aviation environmental protection; and airport information technology. ACI has observer status with ICAO. It also maintains active working relations with numerous intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations. ACI counts 550 members operating over 1,400 airports in 165 countries and territories. In 1999, ACI member airports handled over 3 billion passengers and 62 million tons of freight and mail.

During the period under review, ACI represented the coordinated views of its member airports on the international scene and directed its efforts at promoting the harmonious and orderly development of international civil aviation.

Cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies

ACI maintains close cooperation with ICAO. During the period under review, ACI actively participated in some 50 ICAO worldwide and regional meetings and contributed through its experts to the work of numerous ICAO panels, committees and study groups. ACI is represented on the following ICAO bodies: Committees on Aviation Environmental Protection, Unlawful Interference and Future Air Navigation Systems; panels on visual aids, aviation security, facilitation, statistics, airport economics, dangerous goods, and regulation of air transport services; and study groups on rescue economics of noise: restrictions, and frangible aids. ACI keeps its membership regularly informed of ICAO's activities. The cooperation between ACI and ICAO is described in greater detail in the ACI annual reports.

During the period 1994-1997, ACI was represented at the following meetings, inter alia, of specialized agencies:

- 1994 ICAO Air Navigation Services Economics Panel (Montreal)
- ICAO/ACI Joint Facilitation Area Meeting (Tunis)
- ICAO Worldwide Air Transport Conference (Montreal)
- 1995 WHO Global Programme on AIDS: Travel & Tourism Sector (Geneva)
- ICAO Facilitation Division (Montreal)
- ICAO Aviation Security Panel (Montreal)
- ICAO Air Navigation Services (Montreal)
- ICAO Assembly (Montreal)
- ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (Geneva)
- 1996 ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel (Montreal)
- ICAO Air Navigation Services Economics Panel (Montreal)
- ICAO Statistics Panel (Montreal)
- 1997 ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel (Montreal)
- ICAO Visual Aids Panel (Montreal)
- ICAO Statistics Division (Montreal)
- ICAO Aviation Security Panel (Montreal)
- Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation on a Global Strategy for Safety Oversight (Montreal)
- ICAO Facilitation Panel (Montreal)

In addition to ICAO, ACI maintains contacts on topics of mutual concern with other specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system, among them: the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Liaison is also maintained with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Tourism Organization. Since 1974, ACI and its predecessor AACC had permanent representatives to the United Nations offices in Geneva, New York and Vienna.

Activities of the Council of direct concern to airport operators are discussed at the biannual meetings of the ACI Governing Board. Pertinent information is transmitted to the membership, whenever necessary. ACI's representation at international forums is assured by Secretariat staff and experts from member airports. These experts are selected from a cross-section of airports in all parts of the world, thus allowing for a beneficial exchange of experience.

Cooperation with other international organizations

Apart from the United Nations agencies, ACI cooperates with a large number of other international organizations. First and foremost are the International Air

Transport Association (IATA) and the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations (IFALPA), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA), the International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations (ICCAIA), the International Council of Aircraft Owner and Pilot Associations (IAOPA), the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). ACI is also a member of the International Industry Working Group (IIWG). This group, comprising representatives of ACI, IATA, ICCAIA and the ICAO secretariat, is entrusted with inter-industry studies on a variety of technical matters, with a view to tackling common problems, and so improve the design and development of both aircraft and airports.

Publications

ACI publishes annual reports, a policy handbook which is regularly updated, a magazine, a newsletter, traffic statistics, technical documents, position papers and press releases.

2. Colombian Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations

General consultative status granted in 1995

The Colombian Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations (CCONG) encourages and facilitates dialogue and negotiation processes between non-governmental organizations, public and private sectors, international organizations and other expressions of the civil society, in order to generate cooperation models for the sustainable human development. Nowadays, it consists of eight regional federations and thirteen associations. Its economical resources come from different national and international entities, such as Comunidad de Madrid (Madrid's Community), Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation), USAID and the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia. It is affiliated with various international nets such as the Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Instituciones de Vivienda, Gestión y Medio Ambiente Urbano (Latin American and the Caribbean Network of Institutions of Housing, Administration and Urban Environment), le Red de ONG de Familia (the Network of Family NGOs), with its headquarters in Vienna, La Red Mundial de ONG (the Network of Global NGOs) with its headquarters in New Delhi. At national level it is part of the Inter-institutional Committee for the Eradication of Child Labour and Protection of Under-aged Workers, the Consulting Committee of Civil Society Organizations with the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Committee of the World Bank for Alliances against Poverty and for Development, among others.

In the past four years, the Confederation helped to construct a pluralist and sustainable civil society, with resources and projects that demonstrate its expansion, transparency and integrity. To accomplish its mission, it has been able to create a communication channel with the United Nations which has permitted it to generate projects at the national and international levels.

At the national level, between March of 1994 and March of 1995, the Confederation worked with UNDP, explaining the United Nations system and the new decentralization scenarios. CCONG, again with UNDP, organized meetings on reconciliation and national reconstruction, which resulted in the creation of the Permanent Assembly of the Civil Society for Peace in Bogota. More than 3,500 civil society organizations and 120 deputies of the international non-governmental organizations of Europe, the United States, Canada and Latin America attended.

At the international level, CCONG participated in the meetings of relevant non-governmental organizations in the activities of the International Year of the Family, first at the Latin American meeting (Cartagena de Indias) and afterwards at the meeting in Valetta, Malta. It also participated in a global march against child labour. CCONG participated in many UNICEF campaigns on Indians, culture, women's rights, maltreatment, HIV, basic health and human rights.

CCONG attended conferences and meetings in New York (on the child), Rio de Janeiro (environment), Vienna (human rights), Cairo (population), Copenhagen (social development), Beijing (women), Istanbul (housing) and Rome (FAO). At these events, CCONG prepared statements that were useful for the attending delegations. CCONG participated as a member of the official delegation in a meeting in Yokohama on the International Decade for Disaster Relief Reduction, and attended a meeting in Geneva on human rights.

In the areas of international cooperation and capacity-building, the Confederation demonstrated its experience in programmes and projects. At a meeting in Santa Cruz of Bolivia on sustainable development, CCONG organized a consulting workshop forum that influenced the final document.

United Nations concerns are discussed in the following issues of *Colombia Responde (Colombia Answers)*: No. 1 (May 1993); No. 2 (December 1993); No. 3 (April 1994); No. 5 (April 1995).

3. Goodwill Industries International

Special consultative status granted in 1995

Goodwill Industries International is an international organization consisting of 181 local Goodwill Industries in the United States and Canada and 38 associate members worldwide, dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment through a system of vocational training and employment.

Aims and purposes

Goodwill Industries International was established in 1902 to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and other special needs. The organization's purpose is to achieve the full participation in society of people with disabilities and other individuals with special needs by expanding their opportunities and occupational capabilities through a network of autonomous, non-profit, community-based organizations providing services throughout the world in response to local needs.

Increase in geographic membership: None.

Changes in funding: Total revenues increased by approximately 26.62 per cent.

Affiliation to an international non-governmental organization in consultative status: Goodwill Industries International has been affiliated with Rehabilitation International. Goodwill Industries International participates on an ongoing basis in the meetings and policy-making aspects of Rehabilitation International.

Participation in the activities of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

Goodwill's Director of International Programs participated in the development and publication by the United Nations of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/96, and served on the Rules Task Force.

Other relevant activities

Community-based employment and training programmes are central to Goodwill Industries International's mission. Most Goodwill member organizations provide services that fall into four general categories: vocational evaluation; vocational adjustment; job-seeking skills/job placement services and transitional employment. From 1995-1998, the number of people served through employment and training programmes rose to 320,848, an increase of approximately 148,000; people receiving job placement services rose to 74,263, a 200 per cent increase; people placed in competitive employment rose to 58,265, a 200 per cent increase.

Goodwill serves thousands of people outside the United States and Canada through its network of associate members overseas. The community-based organizations provide local job training and employment services. To encourage and support global expansion, individual United States and Canadian Goodwill organizations work with overseas members on cooperative projects.

To further service and support Goodwill's network of overseas activity a new programme, Goodwill Global, was formed in 1997. While Goodwill International's main focus is North America, Goodwill Global's sole mission is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment in other developed and underdeveloped countries. Its goal is to build alliances with like-minded corporations, foundations, Governments and non-government entities worldwide. Activities have included:

(a) Working to establish a partnership with the International Labour Organization, Rotary International, and local African organizations. Specifically, the International Labour Organization's Disability and Jobs for Africa programmes are targeting four or five sub-Saharan countries for a pilot programme. Goodwill best practices will be utilized to increase employment and reduce poverty of persons with disabilities, the very poor and disadvantaged;

(b) In partnership with the Shaw Trust, providing technical support to increase revenues the Shaw Trust is generating from its used goods retail enterprises. Focusing on a pilot programme for four of the Shaw Trust's 36 stores, a

Goodwill team developed a plan to increase donations, increase production efficiency and volume, and increase shop sales, and is working with Shaw Trust's management and store personnel to monitor improvements. The pilot programme has achieved its goals in the four stores, and the potential exists for creation of a Goodwill/Shaw Trust joint venture enterprise in the United Kingdom;

(c) The United Kingdom Department of Education and Employment and the Department of Social Service invited Goodwill to present a special three-day seminar and master class. A team of Goodwill experts shared the Goodwill approach to serving individuals with barriers to work and disabilities in the context of economic and welfare reform;

(d) In the Ukraine, along with the International Labour Organization, Rotary International, the Vocational Education and Rehabilitation Centre in Linz, Austria, and the University of Heidelberg, Goodwill will assist the Ukrainian Government and local rehabilitation organizations in the establishment of a model national centre for vocational rehabilitation. Goodwill will contribute to the development of management guidelines, curricula, and workforce development and training programmes as well as training of trainers in the Ukraine and at other locations including in the United States;

(e) Goodwill Global is serving as a technical resource to Rotary International to implement its goal of promoting employment opportunities for people with disabilities and other vocational barriers. Rotary embraced the goal of promoting employment opportunities for people with disabilities and other vocational barriers through the Creating Jobs for the World's Disabled Task Force. Rotary International's 29,000 Rotary clubs worldwide are collaborating with employers, local Goodwill organizations and other community-based organizations around the world to create employment for 500,000 people with disabilities.

4. International Chamber of Shipping

Special consultative status granted in 1971

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is the principal international trade association for the shipping industry, concerned with technical, operational and legal issues, representing the global shipping industry at the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The membership of ICS includes national shipowner associations from 36 countries which together represent over half the world's merchant tonnage. ICS seeks to encourage high quality, safe and efficient commercial shipping, in an internationally regulated environment. It also promotes environmental safety. Over the period under review (1995-1998), ICS lost Colombia, but gained Austria and Barbados as members.

ICS's main areas of activity, with particular reference to IMO, can be grouped under five headings: maritime safety; environmental questions; maritime law; stowaways; and preparation for the Y2K bug.

Maritime safety

Much of the day-to-day work of ICS is connected with efforts both at regulatory level and within the industry to promote safety at sea. ICS was an active participant in the IMO conference in November 1995 to amend the Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), to improve the stability of roll-on/roll-off passenger ferries. With the growing international use of high-speed craft (HSC), ICS contributed to an IMO Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft, which took effect in January 1996. February 1996 also saw the advent of the new global marine distress and safety system, in the development of which ICS had been centrally engaged over many years.

Discussions continued in 1997 and 1998 to introduce further amendments to the SOLAS Convention to enforce newer, safer navigation technology on ships. Other safety matters in which ICS played a prominent part during the quadrennium included improvements in bulk carrier safety. ICS produced an industry checklist for good loading procedures and contributed to a resolution for greater structural survivability. Importantly, from 1996 ICS began to promote preparations for the IMO International Safety Management Code (ISM Code), which was developed to establish safer ship operation procedures. The Code came into force for many ships in July 1998 and ICS has published guidance on its implementation. ICS has continued to publish safety-related guides, including a new edition of the universally accepted *Tanker Safety Guide (Liquefied Gas)*, and, with other organizations, of the *International Safety Guide for Oil Tankers and Terminals*.

Environmental questions

ICS started working with IMO in 1996 on preparatory work to revise the oil and chemical sections of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). In 1997, there were intensive discussions on ship's garbage and atmospheric pollution, and in 1997-1998 ICS helped draw up a garbage management plan for ships and measures to reduce sulphur and nitrogen oxide emissions. In 1998, ICS was concerned at the differing ways used to enforce low-sulphur fuels and advocated a worldwide practice, rather than special zones. In 1996-1997, discussions began in IMO, and still continuing today, over the disposal of ships' ballast water, which can transport unwanted marine organisms into foreign coastal waters. ICS argued for an international solution and a better, safer method than transferring ballast water out at sea. ICS published a model ballast management plan to help shipping companies organize the safe transfer of ballast water.

Maritime law

In May 1996, ICS participated at IMO in the adoption of the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS Convention), which provides a two-tier scheme for sharing responsibility between shipowner and cargo-owner.

Stowaways

In 1996, ICS was involved with IMO in producing international guidelines for dealing with stowaways on ships. These discussions have continued to the present, with ICS assuming a central role in the debate.

Y2K problem

ICS issued a warning to the shipping industry in 1997 concerning the possible malfunction of shipboard and port computer systems associated with the so-called Y2K problem. As the critical date drew nearer, ICS was active in cooperation with international and national agencies to establish compliance checks and formulate contingency plans. ICS helped draw up with IMO a code of good practice for Y2K preparation, which was gratefully received as a contribution to the industry's readiness for the event.

5. International Co-operative Alliance

General consultative status granted in 1946

Founded in 1895, the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) is an international non-governmental organization which unites, represents and serves cooperatives worldwide. It has 254 national and international cooperative organizations from over 100 countries which represent over 760 million individuals. The aim of ICA is to promote and strengthen autonomous cooperatives throughout the world. Through actions taken at the international, regional and national levels, ICA also seeks to promote and protect cooperative values and principles; facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organizations; promote equality between men and women in all decision-making and activities within the cooperative movement; promote sustainable human development; and further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to international peace and security.

ICA was one of the first non-governmental organizations to obtain consultative status, in 1946. Since then, it has worked both at the regional and international level with the United Nations and its bodies to fulfil its aims as stipulated by its own rules which explicitly mention collaboration with United Nations organizations as one of the means of achieving its objectives. ICA has participated in the major United Nations conferences on women, social development, food security and human settlements during the reporting period. It also collaborates on an annual basis with the United Nations in preparing celebrations for the United Nations International Day of Cooperatives, established by the General Assembly in resolution 49/155 of 23 December 1994. In addition, ICA has strengthened its relationship with the United Nations and its specialized bodies through its participation in the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), of which the United Nations, FAO and ILO are members.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and conferences

During the period 1994-1997, ICA participated in major United Nations world conferences and provided input to their preparatory processes: the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Summit for Social Development, United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

ICA was represented at the preparatory meetings for the Fourth World Conference on Women. Statements were distributed as conference room papers at the ESCAP Second Asia and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development (Jakarta, June 1994), the ECE High-Level Regional Preparatory Meeting (Vienna, October 1994), and the ECLAC Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mar del Plata, September 1994). A global report, entitled "Contribution of cooperatives to the advancement of women: comments to the draft platform for action of the Fourth World Conference on Women", was submitted to the United Nations Secretariat in December 1994. Another report, jointly prepared by ICA and the United Nations Secretariat Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, was submitted as a conference room paper to the Commission on the Status of Women (thirty-ninth session) in March 1995, entitled "The contribution of cooperative business enterprise and the international cooperative movement to achievement of the strategic objectives of the draft platform of action". ICA sent a delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women, and an ICA Board member presented its statement on 7 June 1995, during the plenary session.

ICA also participated in the preparatory committee meetings of the World Summit on Social Development. A statement was distributed to the participants of the first session of the preparatory committee (New York, February 1994), and an oral statement was made at the second session (23 August 1994, New York). A series of information notes was jointly prepared by ICA and the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, addressing the role of coops and effective social partnership, expansion of productive employment, eradication of poverty, social integration, the advancement of women, the health, farmers and credit sectors. ICA was represented at the Summit (Copenhagen, 1995) and participated in the COPAC-organized official event, "Cooperatives, farmers' organizations and sustainable development", held on 7 March 1995.

ICA representatives participated in ECE Regional Preparatory Meeting for Habitat II (Geneva, September 1994) and the third session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat II (New York, February 1996). An ICA representative made an oral statement during the plenary session of Habitat II (Istanbul, 7 June 1996).

ICA has also been represented at meetings of the regional economic commissions. It presented an oral statement to ECE at its forty-ninth session (Geneva) and was represented at the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions. It was regularly represented in the ECE Committee of Human Settlements. ICA was also represented at the forty-sixth session of the Committee on Agriculture (Geneva) and made an oral statement on item 5 of the agenda. It submitted a report to the ECE Committee on Agriculture entitled "Institutions and policies relating to agricultural markets and their impact on trade: the role of cooperatives, new approaches". ICA was represented at the ESCAP/NGO Forum for Social Development (Kuala Lumpur,

September 1997) and was represented by its regional offices at ESCAP and ECA statutory meetings.

ICA presented a statement and circulated a report on the contribution of fisheries cooperatives to food security at the Kyoto International Conference on the Sustainable Contribution of Fisheries to Food Security (December 1995).

Collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The ICA permanent representative in Rome regularly represented ICA at FAO statutory meetings. In addition to participating in the Conference and Council, ICA was also regularly represented at the Committee on Agriculture. ICA also participated in the preparations for the World Food Summit itself. It was represented at the twenty-first session of the Committee on World Food Security (Rome, January 1996), where it presented an oral statement and prepared a special report in April 1996, "The role of the cooperative in contributing to food security and the World Food Summit and its follow-up" as input to conference documentation. It presented an oral statement to the World Food Summit (Rome, November 1996). ICA has also undertaken a number of joint technical activities with FAO in the period under review.

ICA works in close collaboration with the ILO. It was regularly represented at statutory meetings as well as the ILO Meeting of Experts on Cooperative Law (Geneva, 1995). It undertook a number of joint activities, including the preparation of the ILO/ICA "Gender issues in cooperative human resource development" (1996) and a series of technical cooperation activities. ICA collaborated closely with the ILO COOPNET and COOPREFORM programmes.

ICA appointed a permanent representative to the UNCTAD Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors (Insurance), who made oral statements at its second and third sessions to the Committee (5 July 1994 and 15 November 1995, respectively).

ICA appointed a permanent representative to UNIDO who regularly represented ICA at statutory meetings. In December 1995, ICA was represented at the UNIDO Forum on Cleaner Industrial Production and presented a statement on ICA and its contribution to sustainable human development.

In 1995-1996 ICA collaborated with the WHO Global Programme on AIDS in the development of a research project to develop and test the benefits of an enabling approach in reducing HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases in a fishing trading community in Zambia.

Other relevant activities

On 15 May 1994 ICA received a testimonial award from the United Nations for its contribution to the International Year of the Family, at a celebration held at the United Nations Office in Geneva.

On a yearly basis since 1995 the ICA has included the message of the United Nations Secretary-General on the occasion of the United Nations International Day of Cooperatives in its press pack, distributed to over 2,000 organizations and

individuals. On the second International Day, it jointly organized with the United Nations Secretariat Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development a panel discussion on the theme, "Partnership between the United Nations and the international cooperative movement" at United Nations Headquarters (1 July 1996).

ICA participated in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (A/51/267, 6 August 1996), through its participation in COPAC.

ICA also provided information to the United Nations Secretariat Department of Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development for inclusion in its joint publication with the Institute for Environment and Development, entitled "Changing consumption and production patterns: unlocking trade opportunities" (May 1997).

6. International Union for the Scientific Study of Population

Special consultative status granted in 1950

Originally founded in 1928 and reconstituted in 1947, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) is the leading international professional association for individuals interested in population studies. The IUSSP network includes almost 2,000 members worldwide, among which one third are from developing countries.

In accordance with its constitutional objectives, IUSSP promotes scientific studies pertaining to the problems of population by encouraging research into demographic issues and problems worldwide, stimulating interest in population questions among Governments, international and national organizations, the scientific community and the general public, fostering exchanges between population specialists and those in related disciplines and disseminating scientific knowledge on population as widely as possible. Over the past half century the international community has had at its disposal a rapidly increasing body of knowledge on the interrelations between demographic behaviour and the development process. The great majority of this knowledge has been built up by members of IUSSP and much of it through programmes organized by IUSSP.

The returns from its research and monitoring activities, and the fact that they are carried out by a non-political and non-partisan organization, present donors with a very cost-effective mechanism for policy review and development. This is especially the case because the great majority of research identified by its scientific communities is carried out within universities, research institutions and other professional bodies, each of which has separate means of support for its activities. IUSSP is uniquely placed to foster the science which is so necessary in this field. It is constrained only by limitations on its funding, which is small in proportion to its influence around the world.

Activities, 1994-1997

(a) Seminar on Values and Fertility Change (Sion, Switzerland, 16-19 February 1994);

- (b) Seminar on Sexual Sub-Cultures and Migration in the area of AIDS/STDs (Bangkok, 27 February-3 March 1994);
- (c) Conference on Population and Environment in Industrialized Regions (Warsaw and Cracow, Poland, 27-30 June 1994);
- (d) Workshop on Abortion, Infanticide and Neglect in the Past (Kyoto, Japan, 20-21 October 1994);
- (e) Conference on Population and Environment in Arid Regions (Amman, Jordan, 24-27 October 1994);
- (f) Seminar on Women, Poverty and Demographic Change (Oaxaca, Mexico, 25-28 October 1994);
- (g) Conference on Demography and Poverty (Florence, Italy, 2-4 March 1995);
- (h) Seminar on Intergenerational Economic Relations and Demographic Change (Honolulu, Hawaii, 12-14 September 1995);
- (i) European Population Conference (Milan, Italy, September 1995);
- (j) Seminar on Fertility and the Male Life Cycle in the Era of Fertility Decline (Zacatecas, Mexico, 13-16 November 1995);
- (k) Conference on Asia Population History (Taipei, 4-8 January 1996);
- (l) Seminar on Socio-cultural and Political Aspects of Abortion in a Changing World (Trivandrum, India, 25-28 March 1996);
- (m) Seminar on Innovative Approaches to the Assessment of Reproductive Health (Manila, Philippines, 24-27 September 1996);
- (n) Workshop for a Research Agenda for Family Planning in the Era of AIDS (Nairobi, Kenya, October 1996);
- (o) Arab Regional Population Conference (Cairo, 8-12 December 1996);
- (p) Seminar on Comparative Perspectives on Fertility Transition in South Asia (Islamabad, 17-20 December 1996);
- (q) Seminar on Population and Economy: From Hunger to Modern Economic Growth (Toyonaka, Japan, 7-10 January 1997);
- (r) Conference on the Socio-demographic Impact of AIDS in Africa (Durban, 3-6 February 1997);
- (s) Seminar on Female Empowerment and Demographic Processes: Moving beyond Cairo (Lund, Sweden, 21-24 April 1997);
- (t) Conference on International Migration at the Century's End: Trends and Issues (Barcelona, Spain, 7-10 May 1997);
- (u) Workshop on the Methods for Family Planning Evaluation (San José, Costa Rica, 10-12 May 1997);
- (v) Workshop on Age: Between Nature and Culture (Rostock, Germany, 29-31 May 1997);

(w) Seminar on the Cultural Perspectives on Reproductive Health (Rustenburg, South Africa, 16-19 June 1997);

(x) XXIIIrd General Conference (Beijing, China, 11-17 October 1997).

7. Junior Chamber International

Special consultative status granted in 1954

Junior Chamber International (JCI), also known as "the Jaycees", is a non-governmental organization with active ties to the United Nations system, including several United Nations agencies such as UNICEF and UNCTAD. It is a worldwide federation of young professionals and entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 and 40. Our mission is to contribute to the advancement of the global community by providing the opportunity for young people to develop the leadership skills, social responsibility, entrepreneurship, and fellowship necessary to create positive change.

We believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life; that the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations; that economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise; that government should be of laws rather than of men; that earth's great treasure lies in human personality, and that service is the best work of life.

JCI continued working with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Together, these organizations have worked for the prevention and control of cholera and diarrhoeal diseases around the world. In 1994 full-scale activities flourished in seven Junior Chamber priority countries with the guidance of regional staff and short-term technical consultants. Throughout the year, many national organizations and chapters implemented projects to provide clean drinking water and prevent these deadly diseases.

On 2 and 3 March, the then JCI President and Secretary-General attended a conference in Washington, D.C., to celebrate with UNICEF the twenty-fifth anniversary of oral rehydration therapy (ORT). The Director of UNICEF attended the ceremony. The JCI President and Secretary-General also attended a special UNICEF summit honouring UNICEF's Ambassador Harry Belafonte and the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu. The summit was entitled "United Nations Day of the African Child". The JCI President also launched the "JCI Refugees Relief Fund". Contributions were presented to the Director of UNICEF and to the President and CEO of CARE/USA.

In 1995, the new JCI President made "The future of children" his major theme for the year. Chapters were asked to carry out at least one project to benefit children. More than half a million children benefited in 1995 from more than 200 "Future of children" projects which ranged from a colouring contest in India to a leadership seminar for secondary school students in Fiji.

During 1995 a JCI/UNESCO joint project agreement was signed, and a task force was created to develop several programmes including the "Rounding the Cape" project. The purpose of this long-term initiative is to utilize the skills and contacts of Junior Chamber members to interview young people worldwide on their aspirations, values and motivations. This permanent dialogue allows JCI and

UNESCO to better understand young people and to become better advocates for youth.

On the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and to honour the special occasion, JCI delegates from 74 countries and territories gathered in New York from 19 to 23 August. The delegates participated in the JCI Conference for the United Nations Fiftieth Anniversary. The theme for the conference was "JCI vision for the future of the United Nations". The conference provided great insight into the role of non-governmental organizations in United Nations programmes and initiatives around the world.

During 1996, JCI proudly continued to support UNICEF programmes, including the promotion of oral rehydration therapy (ORT). This simple, life-saving technique can save the life of a child suffering from dehydration in just 24 hours. JCI also supported the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child and reiterated its long-standing tradition of care and support for children worldwide.

The Global Affairs Leadership Summit was conducted in Paris with the cooperation of UNESCO and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in 1996. This important meeting attracted 336 JCI members from 70 national organizations plus an additional five contact countries.

During 1997 members convened in Geneva in September to celebrate JCI Day (19 September) at the United Nations Office. JCI's representative to the United Nations organized a two-day programme that included a tour of the United Nations facilities and a meeting with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

With the backing of UNESCO, Jeune chambre Économique française continued to promote the "Rounding the Cape" project. A representative of UNESCO travelled to Honolulu in November to speak to delegates at the JCI World Congress about this important programme which is intended to survey the needs, wants and aspirations of the world's children and adolescents and promote grassroots efforts to address those concerns.

In 1997, JCI continued to support the work of fellow non-governmental organizations, including the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Association of Students in Economics and Management (AIESEC), UNICEF and UNESCO.

8. Muslim World League

General consultative status granted in 1979

The Muslim World League (MWL-Rabita) is an international, Islamic and non-governmental organization, founded in 1962 and headquartered in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Saudi Arabia. Its aims and objectives are in general conformity to those of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council, in addition to the following:

- (a) To disseminate Islamic Dawah and expound the teaching of Islam;
- (b) To defend Islamic causes in a manner that safeguards the interests of Muslims, solves their problems and refutes allegation against Islam;
- (c) To promote peace, cooperation and solidarity among mankind.

Accordingly, MWL-Rabita participates in and promotes United Nations activities in the fields related to international peace and harmony, human rights, education, health, social and scientific development, upholding of religious values, rendering relief to refugees and minorities, and prevention of racial discrimination.

To accomplish these goals in close cooperation with the United Nations and its main organs and specialized agencies, MWL-Rabita maintains permanent offices at the United Nations offices in New York, Geneva and Paris. Furthermore, MWL-Rabita's permanent representatives maintain cordial working relations on a regular basis with the United Nations Secretariat, the Council, UNICEF, UNDP and other United Nations bodies and agencies. Likewise MWL-Rabita representatives have always maintained good working relations with the delegations of member States and other non-governmental organization representatives.

MWL-Rabita representatives have regularly participated in United Nations conferences and symposia and attended the General Assembly sessions, and the Secretary-General has attended similar events convened elsewhere, including:

- (a) World Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, Egypt, 13-15 September 1994);
- (b) World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, Denmark, 6-12 March 1995);
- (c) NGO Forum on Women (Beijing, 30 August-15 September 1995);
- (d) Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, China, 4-15 September 1995);
- (e) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-14 June 1996);
- (f) Millennium Summit for Religious Leaders and Peace (United Nations Headquarters, 28-31 August 2000).

The MWL representative actively participated in the following events held at United Nations Headquarters:

- (a) Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women (13 March-5 April 1995);
- (b) Fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations (21-22 October 1995);
- (c) Annual meeting of Non-governmental Committee of UNICEF (4 June 1998);
- (d) Seminar of NGOs on the Palestine Issue, on the theme "50 years for homeless Palestinian people";
- (e) Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights (14-16 September 1998);
- (f) Fifth annual coordination meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (1 October 1998);
- (g) Forty-third meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (March 1999), for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference, as well as in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on women (5-9 June 2000);

(h) Special session held on the fringes of the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (15 March 1999) at which the status of women was expounded from an Islamic point of view, followed by a reading at the concluding session of a communiqué by MWL-Rabita;

(i) Fifty-second Conference of NGOs (15-17 September 1999), on the theme "Challenges of globalization";

(j) Celebration of the International Solidarity Day with Palestinian People (29-30 November 1999);

(k) United Nations Workshop on the Internet (29 March 2000);

(l) Ninth Annual Conference of World Information Transfer Inc. (26-28 April 2000), on the theme "The advent of the new millennium";

(m) Millennium Forum (22-26 May 2000);

(n) Twenty-third extraordinary session of the General Assembly (5-9 June 2000).

The MWL-Rabita representative distributed a documentary memorandum regarding Quds (Jerusalem) to the Secretary-General and to 51 senior United Nations officials and permanent representatives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the United Nations. He also submitted a memorandum to the chairman of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly on women (5-9 June 2000).

9. Pan-African Women's Organization

Special consultative status granted in 1969

The Pan-African Women's Organization (PAWO) was established in July 1962 and has its headquarters in Luanda, Angola.

The membership of PAWO includes 53 African countries divided into five subregions with subregional offices: north – Algeria; west – Mali; east – United Republic of Tanzania; central – Rwanda; south – South Africa.

The year 1994 was devoted to preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women through organizations in countries members of PAWO. Workshops, meetings and exhibitions were organized at country level to explain the importance of the Beijing Conference for the worldwide mainstreaming of women into development. During 1994, a new upsurge in refugees (over 5 million in Africa) and displaced persons (over 15 million) resulted from the armed conflict in Rwanda. This group deserved attention: PAWO considered that education should be provided in the camps and other places where thousands of people were given shelter in often-precarious conditions. PAWO participated in the preparatory meeting organized by the United Nations in Dakar. Participants included 53 African countries, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, civil society and international organizations. It was an important consultative meeting which gave African women an opportunity to develop an African platform.

The year 1995 was devoted to the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing and attended by 40,000 women representing 2.8 billion of their sisters. What

unites all these women, above and beyond their differences of race, belief, economic level and culture, is their common lack of equal opportunity. Women have come to understand that they can count only on their own strength and on their creative capacity for mobilization, for their movement is universal.

In 1996, the governing council of PAWO met in Bamako to prepare for the Harare Conference. Twenty-two countries participated; the discussions focused on financial matters, since most member organizations had not paid their annual dues. Collection procedures were established, and information on the Beijing Conference and on the content of its Platform for Action were provided.

Today's Africa is caught up in the geopolitical changes taking place at the global level. It must be recognized that Africa, alone among the five continents, is disproportionately burdened by the unfavourable environment it faces, in the form of uprisings, armed conflicts, fratricidal wars and a crushing debt overhang. We are deeply concerned at the increasing number of internal conflicts in our countries for, in addition to their negative impact on peace and stability on the continent, these conflicts drain the scarce resources of the countries involved and lead to great sacrifices, including loss of human life, destruction of property and large numbers of displaced persons and refugees, most of them women and children.

The year 1997 was marked by the eighth PAWO congress in Harare, where a new general secretariat was established and a new General Secretary elected. PAWO participated in a session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, where it delivered a statement on the issue of peace on the African continent, the impact of armed conflicts on civilian populations and the resulting increase in the number of refugees. The secretariat visited refugee camps in Angola and Rwanda.

On 31 July of each year, which is celebrated as African Women's Day, national member organizations endeavour to evaluate follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Dakar Platform for Action; it will be recalled that, in Beijing, African Governments committed themselves to adopting appropriate legislation in that regard.

In 1998, PAWO participated in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) in Geneva, which provided an opportunity to express our will to continue cooperating with other non-governmental organizations throughout the world with a view to achieving genuine participation by civil society in all matters relating to the lives and well-being of peoples.

PAWO participated in two meetings organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Dakar and Addis Ababa, where we were appointed to membership in the Committee on Women and Development established by the African Centre for Women.

PAWO representatives also visited Guinea-Bissau, a country grappling with social problems that place a heavy burden on women.

In Senegal, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Minister of Women, Children and the Family of Senegal and PAWO launched a major information campaign on violence against women, and an Act prohibiting the infliction of genital mutilation on young girls was promulgated.

Bamako and Johannesburg, the sites of two regional secretariats, hosted meetings of national organizations on specific problems such as education, peace, health and poverty.

The observer status of PAWO in the Organization of African Unity (OAU) allows it to take part in all meetings, seminars, councils and summits of this African organization. Where necessary, PAWO takes the floor to discuss current problems, thereby providing input to African Governments concerning their actions in our countries.

In 1999, PAWO organized one-day workshops on the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) pandemic in Africa and, in particular, Southern Africa. The workshop was held in Namibia and gave PAWO women an opportunity to evaluate the extent of the pandemic, especially Africa's (including African women's) lack of access to new therapies. Over 150 women took part in the event; the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS) played a major role and provided financial support for the meeting. The resolutions adopted at the event were submitted to the thirty-fourth summit meeting of heads of State and Government of OAU, which adopted them.

The PAWO regional secretariat, made up of representatives of nine Southern African countries, met in Johannesburg to assess the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, particularly in the fields of health, education, decision-making and peace.

As part of its cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), with which it maintains operational relations, PAWO participated in the Pan-African Women's Conference on a Culture of Peace, held from 17 to 20 May 1999 in Zanzibar.

Because African countries are faced with armed conflict, both directly and through their neighbours, PAWO sought to help prevent such conflicts by holding a Peace Forum during its statutory council meeting in Algiers in November 1999; forty-three countries attended. A declaration was issued at this meeting and was adopted by the Sixth African Regional Conference on Women, organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in preparation for the five-year review of the Beijing Conference. On that basis, the secretariat participated in the United Nations review conference, held in New York in 2000.

PAWO and its member organizations participated in the peace marches held in various African countries and in New York. PAWO hopes to establish an information centre, one purpose of which will be to establish a legal centre on violence against women that would provide women with advice, information and training on their rights.

The Queen Sophia Centre for the Study of Violence has just held a major Forum against Violence, at which the problem of excision was raised and discussed. This practice is considered to be a form of violence against African women, since it exists only in African countries.

If the 1980s were considered catastrophic for development, what of the 1990s and the dawn of the third millennium? According to studies carried out by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the situation continues to worsen;

most African countries are experiencing economic stagnation and, in some cases, even negative growth. A steadily increasing population, the debt burden and other factors limit women's opportunities to improve their status. It is in this situation that PAWO endeavours to focus on an equitable partnership between men and women, taking into account their specific needs.

10. Union internationale des avocats

Special consultative status granted in 1971

Aims and purposes

The Union internationale des avocats (UIA) is the oldest international organization constituted by bars, bar associations and law societies, known as "collective members", and lawyers, known as "individual members". UIA was formed in 1927, in Brussels, Belgium, and continues to exist under the original Belgian charter. UIA is both multicultural and multilingual. Approximately 300 bars, bar associations and law societies based in more than 100 countries throughout the world are collective members, who are representative of most of the world's legal systems and many of the world's languages. All of the major bars, bar associations and law societies of the world are active collective members. In addition, several thousand lawyers from throughout the world are individual members. UIA has six official languages (Arabic, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish) and three working languages (English, French and Spanish).

The primary aims and purposes of UIA include:

- (a) To serve the interests of the people and the lawyers, and bars, bar associations and law societies which protect them;
- (b) To promote the essential precepts of the work of the lawyer as the defender of the rights of citizens;
- (c) To promote the development of jurisprudence in all fields of the law throughout the world;
- (d) To take part in the activities of the United Nations and other international organizations;
- (e) To establish at an international level permanent relations and exchanges between bar associations and law societies and their members;
- (f) To defend the interests of members of the legal profession;
- (g) To study, develop, and improve the organization and administration of the legal profession.

Since 1971, when special status was granted, UIA has contributed to the activities of the United Nations, including the work of the Council, and is a member of the Advisory Councils for the International Criminal Court and the two ad hoc International Criminal Tribunals.

The UIA has forty-three permanent commissions, subcommissions and working groups, dealing with all practice areas. The work of most of the

commissions and working groups of UIA is related in some way to activities of the United Nations.

Activities

UIA organizes and holds an annual Congress at locations around the world. In addition, throughout the year, UIA, solely or in cooperation with one or more entities, organizes a number of forums, programmes, seminars and other events. At each Congress, there is one main theme on one of three important issues: human rights, business law, and the legal profession. There are major addresses and discussions during plenary sessions. In recent years, United Nations-related topics, including those related to the Council and human rights and social topics, were discussed:

- 1994 Precedents and practical experiences with the United Nations
Convention on the International Sale of Goods
International human rights institutions in 1994
- 1995 Human rights and biotechnology
- 1996 Rights of the defence, Confidentiality and professional secrecy
Justice and the media (freedom of speech and the right to defence)
Children's rights of defence
A decade of human rights at the United Nations
- 1997 The role of the lawyer in the defence of human rights
- 1998 The presumption of innocence
Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- 1999 Legal aspects of electronic commerce, the role of international and
domestic courts in the defence and protection of human rights
- 2000 Competing international jurisdictions in the field of international
crimes
Significance of the United Nations International Sales Convention

In recent years, UIA has been engaged in human rights and social activities throughout the world:

Missions

- 1994 Mission of observation to Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- 1995 Mission to Jerusalem
- 1996 Mission to Beirut
- 1999 Mission to the International Criminal Tribunal of the Hague and
Arusha
Mission to Rwanda

Resolutions

- 1994 Resolution on the lawyer, peace and development
- 1995 Resolution regarding the Permanent International Criminal Court

- 1999 Resolution on children's rights
Resolution on Algeria
- 2000 Resolution on the independence of the bars in Malaysia
- 2001 Resolution about the defence rights in Tunisia

In addition, commissions and working groups of UIA held meetings on topics relevant to the activities and work of the United Nations:

- 1994 The Rule of Law, the Lawyer and the Protection of the Citizen's Rights (Lisbon, Portugal)
Transnational Negotiation and Arbitration: the United Nations Convention on the International Sale of Goods (New York)
- 1995 Faith, Law and Peace (Jerusalem, Israel)
Minorities' Rights against Racism and Xenophobia (Valence, Spain)
International Sale of Goods and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (Vienna, Austria)
- 1996 Remand in Custody in Europe (Milan, Italy)
- 1997 International Criminal and Civil Jurisdictions (Fés, Morocco)
- 1998 Protection of Employees: the Institutional Framework of the Social Dialogue (Istanbul, Turkey)
- 1999 The Globalization of the Profession in the Southern Countries (Agadir, Morocco)
The World Trade Organization and the Business Lawyer (Beirut, Lebanon)
The Rights of Defenders in International Jurisdictions (Paris, France)
Defence in International Criminal Law (Geneva, Switzerland)
- 2000 The Globalization of the Lawyer's Profession: the Multimedia Challenge (Paris, France)
Professional Confidentiality in the European Union: the Directive on Money Laundering (Porto, Portugal)

In addition to its congresses, forums, programmes, seminars, and other activities, UIA has organized three full-day briefings for the President of the UIA collective members, special representatives of the UIA collective members and other leaders of the profession from throughout the world. The briefings were held in New York at United Nations Headquarters (8 September 1997, 11 December 1998, and 7 July 2000). The third briefing was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Bar Association and a special meeting of the Australian Bar Association, held in New York. During the briefings, presentations were made by senior officials of the United Nations, including the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary-General for Management, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Assistant Secretary-General for External Affairs, and senior members of the Office of Legal Affairs.

UIA and the United Nations

The relations between UIA and the United Nations are overseen and coordinated by the UIA Deputy Secretary-General. UIA has at least two active representatives to the United Nations in each of the principal venues — New York, Geneva and Vienna. One representative is a local resident whose task is to liaise regularly, and the other representative is a person holding high office in the Union.

UIA has sought and seeks to be of service to the United Nations and components of the United Nations system, including the Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of Legal Affairs and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, and to encourage and facilitate the relations of its collective members with the United Nations and components of the system.

UIA has responded to a number of requests emanating from the United Nations, and received and studied many reports emanating from the Organization, particularly from the Commission on Human Rights, with which the UIA Commissions on Human Rights and on the Defence of the Defence are closely involved, and from the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, with which many of the UIA Commissions are involved.

The UIA special representative to the Commission on Human Rights attended its annual sessions and addressed it. In addition, the Special Representative was in frequent contact with members of the United Nations staff in Geneva. During 1994-1995, the then-President of UIA addressed the annual session of the Commission on Human Rights. In association with the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International, among others, UIA was frequently involved in issues around the world involving human rights.

UIA has had close and warm ongoing relations with UNCITRAL, including close liaison with its Secretary and Senior Legal Officer. Some UIA commercial law-related Commissions have been and, on an ongoing basis, are involved with the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. Since 1995, a former UIA President has represented UIA at each annual UNCITRAL session. For many years, the Secretary of the Commission, or his representative, has attended the annual UIA Congress and has addressed meetings of leaders of bars, bar associations and law societies from around the world organized by UIA. A number of joint projects between the UIA and UNCITRAL are under consideration.

In 1995, as part of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, the American Bar Association, UIA and the International Bar Association jointly sponsored a formal dinner at United Nations Headquarters. The UIA President attended and addressed the guests.

UIA was well represented at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, China, 1996), and subsequent meetings.

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
5 April 2001

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2001 regular session**Quadrennial reports, 1997-2000 submitted through the
Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social
Council resolution 1996/31****Contents**

	<i>Page</i>
1. Arab Organization for Human Rights	2
2. Association of the Bar of the City of New York	4
3. Congress of Black Women of Canada/Le Congrès des Femmes Noires du Canada	7
4. Federation of Cuban Women	9
5. General Arab Women Federation	11
6. Institute for War and Peace Reporting	13
7. International Commission of Jurists	16
8. International Federation of Building and Wood Workers	19
9. National Union of Jurists of Cuba	21
10. Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association	23
11. Union of Arab Jurists	26



1. Arab Organization for Human Rights

Special consultative status granted in 1989

Aims and purposes

The Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) was founded in 1983 as a non-governmental organizations which, as defined by its statute, works for the defence, protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Arab region, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights treaties and conventions.

AOHR's scope of activities extends to individual and collective civil and political rights as well as economic, social, and cultural rights. It also aims at raising public awareness regarding legal and civil rights.

In 1990, it attained observer status with the Organization of African Unity's Commission for Human and People's Rights. In May 2000, AOHR signed a headquarters' agreement with the Government of Egypt as an international and regional organization based in Cairo.

AOHR's budget is based on membership fees, donations, and interest from its deposits. It does not accept donations from political movements or from Governments, in order to maintain its credibility in the Arab world.

Participation in the work of the Council

Between 1997 and 2000, AOHR attended the fifty-third, fifty-fourth, fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and made oral interventions under items 9, 4, 8, 10, 11 of its agenda. It attended the eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child; the forty-eighth, forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first meetings of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Geneva); the forty-eighth, forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first sessions of the UNHCR; Executive Committee meetings of non-governmental organizations; the fourteenth United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine (1997); the Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights (Geneva, 1998, 1999 and 2000); sessions of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1997-2000, Geneva); sessions of the Commission on Human Rights Working Group on a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (2-13 February 1998 and January 1999, Geneva); meetings of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Palestinian People and other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (February and August 1998); the Diplomatic Conference on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court (Rome, June 1998); the Symposium on Islam and Human Rights (Geneva, August 1998); the Paris Meeting for Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December 1998); the Conference of the High Contracted Parties of the Fourth Geneva Convention (15 July 1999); the fifty-second session of the World Health Organization; the Seminar on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Abidjan, March 1998); and the seminar commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of UNHCR (Geneva, November 2000).

Between 1997 and 2000, the work of AOHR was oriented towards the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights, with special attention to development and human rights. AOHR, in cooperation with UNDP and UNHCHR, AOHR organized, in June 1999, the Seminar on Human Rights and Development, held in Cairo, with wide participation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, academics and experts in the Arab region. The Seminar produced a Programme of Action for promoting the integration of human rights with development and the role of non-governmental organizations in its implementation. In order to raise awareness on the subject, a three-year project, at the regional and the national levels, has been negotiated between AOHR, UNDP and UNHCHR, and will be signed in 2001. AOHR will be the executing agency of the project.

The Secretary-General of AOHR was selected by UNDP, to be a member of the Advisory Panel to the *Human Development Report 2000*, on human rights and human development.

AOHR was selected, in 2000, by the UNHCHR, to be a member of the Preparatory Committee for the NGO Forum to be held in parallel with the World Conference against Racism (Durban, South Africa, August 2001). Furthermore, AOHR was requested, by the Preparatory Committee, to organize an Asian/Arab regional meeting in Amman, Jordan, in February 2001.

The Arab Institute for Human Rights was created by AOHR, the Arab Lawyers Union, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, UNESCO and the Tunisian League for Human Rights.

During the period 1997-2000, AOHR continued, with the Arab Institute for Human Rights, the Arab Lawyers Union, the United Nations, and Huridocs, the efforts aimed at establishing the Arab Network for Information and Documentation on Human Rights (AHRINET) as an effective instrument to Arab organizations working in the field of human rights.

AOHR, through its publications and seminars, has raised awareness of issues that are of concern both regionally and internationally. Its programme of action closely follows the recommendations of the competent bodies of the United Nations. In that respect, AOHR has:

(a) Organized a series of seminars and symposia dealing with the pressing debates and discourses on human rights. The subjects covered included human rights in Islam, Israeli war crimes against Arab prisoners of war and civilians, poverty in the era of globalization, the international impact of the Arab movement for Human Rights, the new draft project of law concerning the establishment of civil associations in Egypt, the establishment of an International Criminal Court, intellectual and academic freedoms, human rights development, the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, the future of democracy in the Arab region, and the protection of human rights activists;

(b) Issued a monthly newsletter in Arabic and a brief in English to review human rights issues and violations in Arab countries, the activities of local and international human rights groups, and significant events in the field of human rights, particularly United Nations activities;

(c) Produced an annual report on the situation of human rights in the Arab World, in Arabic with English translation of its introduction;

(d) Produced a biannual publication *Cases of Human Rights* which includes research on problems related to human rights;

(e) Issued statements and declarations on pressing issues and violations of human rights.

Finally, AOHR's plan for the next few years is to implement, in cooperation with UNHCHR and UNDP, the programme under discussion, aiming at the integration of human rights with development, which includes the issuing of the first Arabic manual on human rights and development; continue its campaign to invite all Arab States to join international legality by adhering, without reservations, to the International Conventions on Human Rights; launch a one-year campaign, in cooperation with the Arab Journalists Union and the Arab Lawyers Union, for the freedom of the press in the Arab region; and continue its participation in United Nations activities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

2. Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Aims and purposes

The Association was founded in 1870 by members of the New York bar to fight corruption in the courts and to sustain the profession in its proper position in the community, and thereby enable it ... to promote the interests of the public. Membership is open to lawyers throughout the world. The membership, as of 31 December 2000, was more than 21,000 lawyers, including lawyers whose home bar is in 46 states of the United States, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and in 62 countries.

The Association continues to work at political, legal and social reform and at maintaining high ethical standards for the legal profession. It continues to implement innovative means by which the disadvantaged may be helped, and the public good remains one of the Association's highest priorities. The Legal Referral Service, jointly sponsored by the Association and the New York County Lawyers' Association, provides an array of services directly aimed at serving the needs of the public. The Robert B. McKay Community Outreach Law Program identifies the most pressing legal concerns of New York's neediest and uses novel approaches to address them, often involving community participation.

The Association has more than 180 standing and special committees, working groups and other bodies. Those with particular relevance to the United Nations and its work include:

- (a) African Affairs;
- (b) Asian Affairs;
- (c) Coordination of Relations with European Bars;
- (d) Delegation to the International Bar Association;

- (e) Delegation to the Union internationale des avocats;
- (f) European Affairs;
- (g) Foreign and Comparative Law;
- (h) Independent States of the Former Soviet Union;
- (i) Inter-American Affairs;
- (j) Council on International Affairs;
- (k) International Commercial Dispute Resolution;
- (l) International Environmental Law;
- (m) International Human Rights;
- (n) International Law;
- (o) International Legal Services;
- (p) International Security Affairs;
- (q) International Trade;
- (r) Military Affairs and Justice;
- (s) United Nations.

Activities relevant to the work of the United Nations

The Association organizes and holds, throughout the year, solely or in cooperation with one or more entities, more than 200 forums, programmes, seminars and other events. In recent years, under the leadership of the Chairs of the Council on International Affairs and the United Nations Working Group, the Association has been engaged in many United Nations-related activities. A partial list is set forth below:

- (a) United States Senate, Foreign Relations Committee hearing with the participation of the Chair of the United States Senate Armed Services Committee. The Under-Secretary-General for Management and other senior officials made statements and responded to questions (21 January 2000);
- (b) Induction of Mary Robinson, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as an Honorary Member of the Association;
- (c) Letter to the President, President-elect and bar executive of major bar associations in the United States urging, under the rule of law and generally accepted principles of international law, action in support of the prompt and full payment of the financial obligation of the United States to the United Nations;
- (d) Briefings on United Nations matters by the Under-Secretaries-General for Legal Affairs and the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary-General for Management, the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), the Secretary and senior officials of UNCITRAL, and other senior officials of the United Nations;

- (e) Briefing on United Nations legal matters by the Chair of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly;
- (f) Briefing on United Nations management matters by the Chair of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly;
- (g) Briefings on United Nations matters by various Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and their respective staff members;
- (h) UNICEF-specific major forum;
- (i) Programme for the use of Association Law Library, one of the largest private law libraries in the United States and the largest member-funded law library in the United States, by members of the Office of Legal Affairs and the Legal Advisers of the Permanent Missions;
- (j) Report urging creation of an International Criminal Court;
- (k) Assistance in preparation of UNCITRAL's legislative guide for privately financed infrastructure.

In addition, Committees and other bodies of the Association held meetings on topics which are relevant to the activities and work of the United Nations, and a great number of forums, programmes and seminars on specialized topics were conducted.

A United Nations flag is on continuous prominent display in the House of the Association. The flag is believed to be among the oldest United Nations flags in New York.

The Association has participated in each of the three full-day briefings at United Nations Headquarters for the President and special representatives of bars, bar associations and law societies and other leaders of the profession from throughout the world (8 September 1997, 11 December 1998, and 7 July 2000). The third briefing was held in conjunction with the New York session of the 2000 annual meeting of the American Bar Association. During the briefings, presentations were made by senior officials of the United Nations, including the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary-General for Management, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Assistant Secretary-General for External Affairs, senior members of the Office of Legal Affairs, and other senior and intermediate level officials of the United Nations.

The relations between the Association and the United Nations are overseen and coordinated by the Co-Chairs of the United Nations Working Group. The Association has active representatives to the United Nations in each of the principal venues: New York, Geneva and Vienna. The Association has sought and seeks to be of service to the United Nations and components of the system, including the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of Legal Affairs and UNCITRAL.

The Association has had close and warm ongoing relations with UNCITRAL, including close liaison with the Secretary and Senior Legal Officer. Some Association commercial law-related commissions have been and continue to be involved with the work of UNCITRAL.

The Association was well represented at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1996) and subsequent meetings.

The Association values very highly its association with the United Nations through its special consultative status with the Council. It hopes to make a contribution to the aims and goals of the Council and other components of the United Nations system. That involvement and contribution is increasing year by year and will continue to do so. The Association stands ready, whenever called upon, to give such assistance as it is able to the Council and other components of the system.

3. Congress of Black Women of Canada Le Congrès des Femmes Noires du Canada

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Congress of Black Women of Canada/Le Congrès des femmes noires du Canada, the only black women's national organization in Canada, was established as a national organization in 1980 after four conferences, held between 1973-1977. There are 24 chapters across Canada, including one Francophone chapter, with an overall current membership of 525 women. The funding was reduced due to the cutbacks and stringent measures taken to reduce the deficit. It is expected to be increased to 1996 levels this fiscal year.

The *raison d'être* of the organization is equality and justice for black women and their families in Canada and full participation and enjoyment of their economic, cultural, legal, political and social rights. It seeks to provide a forum and a voice for this constituency, in a society where the majority of its members are marginalized because of their race, colour, and socio-economic status. The organization focuses on concerns relating to human rights, poverty, violence against women, and housing. The organization has acquired two low-cost housing complexes and manages them. The organization works to effect changes in government laws, policies and programmes which adversely affect or could affect black women and their families. It follows a framework of feminist principles to raise the dignity of black women in Canada.

Activities relating to the work of the United Nations

Before and since receiving consultative status in 1997, the organization's activities relating to the United Nations have been primarily participation in the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York.

1997

On behalf of the organization, the President attended the forty-first session of the Commission and chaired the North/South Black Women and Women of Colour Caucus. She assisted in the preparation of alternative wording for submission to delegates of member States and in preparation of a statement from the Caucus.

1998

The National Secretary and past President attended the forty-second session of the Commission and presented a statement prepared by the Caucus.

1999

The past President of the Congress attended the forty-third session of the Commission. Activities were focused on participation on the NGO Human Rights Committee and with the NGO group working on the Protocol to the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The past President co-chaired the North/South Black Women and Women of Colour Caucus and assisted in the line-by-line revisions and the preparation of a statement from the Caucus for distribution to delegates.

The Congress became a member of the Canada World March Committee and assisted in organizing activities, which culminated in the March on 15 October in Ottawa. Fifty thousand women from across Canada were estimated to have participated in the March; several demands were presented to the federal Government.

2000

The Congress was represented by the interim President at the forty-fourth session of the Commission. It assisted in preparation of the final line-by-line revisions in the statement by the NGO Human Rights Committee. It also assisted in the statement and lobbying points prepared by the North/South Black Women and Women of Colour Caucus and distributed them to delegates. It was represented at a special meeting, requested by the Caucus, with a representative from the Commission on Human Rights, to obtain information about the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances, to be held in South Africa in 2001.

June 2000

The President of the Congress and a member of the Ottawa chapter attended the special session of the General Assembly.

October 2000

The Congress participated in the Women's World March, presented relevant demands to the Minister of Immigration and the Secretary of State responsible for Multi-Culturism and Heritage as well as the Canadian Status of Women. It also met with the leader of one of the parties and the Liberal Women's Caucus.

Ongoing since March 2000

The Congress is a member of a coalition of Canadian organizations and individuals preparing for the World Conference Against Racism. It is working on a subcommittee that will produce an alternative report to the Government's report.

4. Federation of Cuban Women

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Federation of Cuban Women (FCW) has the following main objectives: to struggle for the full incorporation, participation and promotion of women in the economic, political, social and cultural life of the country under conditions of equality of rights and opportunities; to attain the necessary transformations and the strengthening of the family that will make all of its members aware of their responsibilities, and to promote the development of non-sexist education in the family, school and society.

In the period under question, the membership has increased to 104,304 women.

FCW is self-sufficient both in national and foreign currency. There has been no substantial change in sources of funding.

In November 2000 the organization was affiliated to another in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: the International Council of Social Welfare.

Participation in the work of the Council

Representatives of FCW annually participated in the Women's Caucus and the NGO Forums organized related to the Commission on the Status of Women, in New York, and the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva. In March 1998, it distributed documents at the session of the Commission on the Status of Women about critical areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action, particularly health, armed conflicts, and institutional mechanisms.

Also during 1998, written contributions were sent to the Commission on Human Rights relating to the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on Human Rights and a resolution condemning the United States blockade and supporting Cuba, which was adopted at the International Encounter of Solidarity Between Women, held in Havana. Since 1998, there have been oral contributions made each year to the Commission on Human Rights regarding women and the rights of the child. In 2000 contributions were also made on the issues of economic, social, and cultural rights and on the issue of violations of human rights in some countries. In 1999 FCW participated in the NGO Forum of the follow-up meeting of the Conference on Population and Development (Cairo+5), held in New York.

In 2000, representatives of FCW participated in the following events: the NGO Forum of the VII Conference on Women of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (February, Peru); the Millennium NGO Forum (May, New York); the special session of the General Assembly (June, New York) (Beijing+5); and the parallel events that were held, such as the Economic Justice Caucus, the NGO Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, in a workshop on violence of the Comité Latinoamericano por los Derechos de la Mujer, which also has consultative status. A representative gave an oral presentation at the special session of the General Assembly at which the Copenhagen commitments on women and economic justice were reviewed (June, Geneva) and at the parallel Forum dedicated to cooperation, co-sponsored by the Government of Italy.

There is fluid and transparent communication between FCW and United Nations bodies, including the specialized agencies. The Government of Italy, jointly with UNDP, UNOPS, and FCW agreed to create a programme of decentralized cooperation in three provinces of Cuba. In 1998, an agreement including 13 municipalities was adopted. The Federation takes part in the national committee on the project as well as the local committees, in order to monitor and offer advice on gender mainstreaming. FCW has been in charge of gender training courses, nationally and locally.

Other relevant activities

FCW has cooperated in the implementation of various United Nations resolutions, through written contributions. Comments have been sent to UNHCHR on several issues, such as basic principles and directives on the rights of victims of grave human rights violations and international humanitarian law to obtain compensation, protection of the human rights of persons infected with HIV; and the Decade for Education in the Field of Human Rights.

Representatives of FCW have taken part, 1997-1999, as advisers to the World Food Programme in Cuba and have developed gender mainstreaming workshops in Central America. In 1999, a FCW representative was a panellist on globalization and its negative impact on women at the session of the Commission on the Status of Women, and in 2000, was a consultant to FAO on projects of rural women in Mexico. In 2000, a representative attended a workshop on the follow-up to the Social Development Summit. Two representatives took part in a panel on gender indicators at the Beijing+5 NGO Forum, organized by UNIFEM and the Statistics Division of the Secretariat; a representative took part in the NGO consultation with the Expert Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women at its twenty-third session. In cooperation with FCW, UNDP has carried out programmes to fulfil in Cuba the demands of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Courses, workshops, publications and videos were produced. UNDP has supported the participation of representatives of FCW at the special session of the General Assembly on women.

UNIFEM has promoted the strengthening of the gender perspective by means of an information network among municipalities and the national division of FCW.

FCW is a member of the National Committee of the Milk and Food Development Projects of WFP, and is in charge of gender training in the provinces of Las Tunas and Granma, where the project is being implemented.

In 1997, FCW co-sponsored with FAO the Meeting of National Rural Networks of Latin American Women, held in Cuba. UNFPA has supported the international meetings of the women's study units organized by FCW.

5. General Arab Women Federation

Special consultative status granted in 1985

Objectives

- (a) To act to unify Arab women's movements at the international level and to encourage their participation in international conferences and organizations as one group;
- (b) To strengthen a spirit of cooperation and solidarity among Arab women in order to make them a whole unit and unify their efforts in social, educational and health services;
- (c) To inform world public opinion of the situation of Arab women and their role in building their communities;
- (d) To enhance Arab women's roles and responsibilities within the family, as partners with men in educating and bringing up children, in cooperation and equality;
- (e) To make women aware of their rights, train them to exercise their rights and encourage them to participate, at different levels, in the life of society;
- (f) To open up opportunities for women in Arab society to study at different levels and achieve their social and educational goals;
- (g) To prepare opportunities and means to prepare and rehabilitate women at different levels of work and enable them to carry out their responsibilities;
- (h) To combat ideas against equality;
- (i) To integrate women into Arab society and involve them in the process of development;
- (j) To participate in social and economic development through cooperation with other organizations;
- (k) To help Arab women abroad and connect them to their homelands.

The Federation has an operational relationship with UNESCO and is a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) and of the CONGO Executive Bureau since 1994.

Participation in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

The Federation participated in the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council over the period covered by this report and as follows:

Commission on Human Rights

The Federation participated in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights from 1997 to 2000. At the fifty-third, a representative of the Federation delivered a speech on item 10, concerning violations of human rights. At the fifty-fourth, a representative delivered a speech on item 20 of the agenda on children's rights. In cooperation with another non-governmental organization, the Federation

organized a round-table seminar on human rights and economic sanctions. At the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions, a representative made statements. The Federation participated in the special session of the Commission on Human Rights, on the situation in the occupied Arab lands.

Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

The Federation participated in the meetings of the Working Group on Minorities (25-29 May 1998). It also participated in the fiftieth, fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Subcommission. At the fifty-first session, it organized a round-table seminar "The killing of a People". At the fifty-second session, a representative of the Federation delivered a speech on item 12.

Commission on the Status of Women

The Federation participated in the forty-first, forty-second and forty-third sessions of the Commission.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Federation participated in the fortieth session of the Commission.

Participation in United Nations international seminars

The Federation participated in a seminar on the Palestinian question, organized by the Palestinian Rights Department, United Nations Secretariat (Jakarta, 6-9 May 1997). It also participated in the United Nations Conference on the Palestinian Question (Cairo, 27-29 April 1998). It participated in the International Conference on Family Violence (New Delhi, 8-11 September 1998), and in the conference entitled Bethlehem 2000 (Rome, 18-19 February 1999). The Federation participated in a meeting on the future of the people of the world and the United Nations role in confronting challenges of the twenty-first century (New York, 22-26 May 2000). The Federation participated in the work of the Preparatory Committee to follow-up the Child Summit held in New York over the period from 29 May to 2 June 2000.

Participation in special sessions of the General Assembly

The Federation participated in the special sessions on the following subjects: narcotic drugs (1998); women (2000); and social development (2000). The Federation also took part in the NGO Forums held on the fringe of the two sessions in 2000.

Other activities

The Federation participated in the UNESCO meetings on women, unity and equality (Paris, 7-9 October 1997) and in the UNESCO General Conference's work (Paris, 16 October to 17 November 1997).

The Federation participated in the CONGO meetings, held in 1997-2000. It was a member of the Executive Bureau in 1998-2000.

In the Arab arena, the Federation participated in meetings of the Arab Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations, on overcoming addiction (Cairo, 25-28 June 1998), in the international seminar organized by the Arab Family Organization, on families and globalization (Tunisia, 1998), in the General Assembly of the Arab-Afro Women Unified Association (Tripoli, 16-18 May 1998), in the Joint Arab Action Fields seminar, organized by the Egyptian Commission for Solidarity (Cairo, 2-3 March 1998), in the twenty-fifth session of the Arab Work Conference, organized by the Arab Work Organization (Aqsur, Egypt, 2-9 March 1998), in the second Arab meeting to follow-up on the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beirut, 12-15 December 1998), in a seminar on activating the private societies' role in confronting challenges of the Arab family in the twenty-first century) organized by the Arab Family Organization (Cairo, 29-30 October 1998), and in the Arab Family Organization and the International Family Organizations' meetings (United Arab Emirates, 2-9 December 1999).

6. Institute for War and Peace Reporting

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) is a media development charity working to strengthen democratic voices and to contribute to international understanding of regional conflicts. Field projects operate in the conflict regions of the Balkans, the Caucasus, Central Asia and at the War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague. Media development is achieved through

- (a) Long-distance training of local journalists in the regions by an editorial team in London and provision of resulting reports with a regional and worldwide readership;
- (b) Monitoring of local media output;
- (c) Provision of media resources, allowing access to the Internet to regional journalists and non-governmental organizations and other human rights representatives.

By using these alternative media approaches, IWPR aims to contribute to the resolution of conflict and to the strengthening of civil society and democracy, while promoting the spirit of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

IWPR's expansion of operations into new regions and the diversification of IWPR activities, 1997-2000, in the light of new media developments and changing political situations on the ground are documented below. The resulting increase of IWPR's impact and the awards which have followed are noted. New conflicts in Chechnya and the former Yugoslavia have led to increased unofficial, informal contact between IWPR members and United Nations personnel as peacemaking and peacekeeping activities have replaced fighting. The convergent aims of both organizations are highlighted.

Field projects

IWPR's field projects are often carried out in regions where the United Nations is working to lay the foundation for durable peace. Increasingly IWPR has established itself as a critical resource for such organizations to inform personnel and create links between civil voices in the regions and decision makers within the organizations.

IWPR continues to operate field programmes in the Balkans, linking a broad network of independent journalists, academics, democracy activists and peacekeepers. New programmes have been launched in the Caucasus, north and south (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation) and in the states of Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan). Regional journalists reporting on issues of human rights, conflict resolution and democratization processes are trained by the prestigious editorial team in IWPR's London office. Local media output is monitored in these regions.

The project in the Hague, reporting on the War Crimes Tribunal, continues, encouraged by Prosecutor Richard Goldstone arguing that the media must serve as the first bridge on behalf of the Court to try to cross the understanding gap of the public to the Court's proceedings.

IWPR completed its long-running visiting journalist programme in London and launched special cross-community reporting projects in collaboration with local partner organizations. The projects resulted in print and electronic publications and exchange activities.

The NATO bombing campaign in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Russian Federation's renewed war in Chechnya resulted in restrictions on the international press and local media alike. IWPR was able to play a unique role in supporting regional journalists and breaking through information blockages. Increasingly working alongside United Nations personnel, IWPR journalists' reports became a respected source of news and analytical information for a worldwide audience in the absence of international media.

IWPR launched its KOSOVO Media Resource Centre to meet the needs of local journalists and other personnel working under increasingly difficult circumstances, providing free Internet access, archived reports from international media and discussion forums for journalists and international officials.

IWPR was contracted to advise the Government of the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) on media development programmes in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the Balkans and the Caucasus.

IWPR hosts occasional public information briefings and seminars. One such was the Media and Human Rights Conference in the Southern Caucasus, held at the International Conference Centre in Tbilisi, Georgia, 7-9 November 1998, at which Mr. Hy Shelow, Protection Officer, UNHCR/Tbilisi, introduced the participants to basic human rights notions and the basics of human rights reporting.

Publications

Since 1996, IWPR reports have been increasingly published electronically on the Institute's web site in four languages and distributed to a large number of email subscribers worldwide. The Internet has provided an international audience for regional voices reporting in the *Balkan Crisis Reports*, *Caucasus Reporting Service*, *Central Asia Reporting* and *Tribunal Update*. Reports are written by a variety of correspondents, from those working for and with the United Nations to those living in the regions and writing about the impact of the United Nations peacekeeping missions on their lives. United Nations agencies which have received special attention are UNMIK and UNHCR.

The renowned *WarReport*, reporting on Balkan affairs, was published throughout 1997 until the final issue in March 1998.

The War Crimes Tribunal Monitoring project published regular reports from the War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague in *Tribunal Update*.

From IWPR's Georgia office came *Media Caucasasia*, a quarterly Russian-language bulletin on media and human rights issues.

A publication entitled *Reporting Macedonia: The New Accommodation*, resulted from a special cross-community reporting project of Macedonian and Albanian journalists.

Occasional special projects result in paper publications such as a report on the main players in the recent Serbian elections, resulting in the book *Out of Time* and a book on the media monitoring activities of the Belarussian elections, *Polls Apart*.

Expanding readership

Reports appear in English on the web site (www.iwpr.net) and are translated into Russian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian, Albanian and French. Current data on traffic to the web site indicate that several thousand visitors access the site each day. At the height of the conflicts in Kosovo and Chechnya, traffic at times surpassed 65,000 hits per day. A further 10,000 subscribed readers receive the free reports by email each week.

Reports are widely republished in the regions (29 newspapers in Central Asia regularly republished articles in 2000) and internationally, particularly during the height of the NATO bombing campaign and the Chechen war, in, for example, *The Guardian*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Washington Post*, *Newsday*, and *Frankfurter Allgemeine*. Regular syndication occurs in the United States through the Knight-Ridder news wire, with citations in the *New York Times*, *Le Monde*, *Time*, *US News & World Report* and others. Associations and syndications with One-world On-line, Moreover.com and Globalbeat, among others, provide substantial additional outreach through Internet and direct email alerts to the wide audience in Europe and North America of these organizations. Prominent links on the web sites of CNN, MSNBC, BBC Yahoo! and other major media and information sources have increased the profile of the Institute and raised awareness of the web site as a source of historic and current regional information.

United Nations personnel are regular visitors to the web site and are evident in the subscribers to the reports by email, with over 50 *un.org* addresses.

Accolades and awards

As the impact of IWPR has increased, so has international recognition and acclaim for the Institute's achievements. In 1999, IWPR won the United Kingdom's first Internet reporting awards — in competition with BBC and other services — for Best Overall Journalism Service. One of IWPR's reporters won the European Internet Journalist of the Year award in 2000 and a short-listing for the prestigious Amnesty International Global Human Rights Reporting Award.

7. International Commission of Jurists

Special consultative status granted in 1957

The activities of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) in the four years 1997-2000 have continued to be directed towards promoting the observance, respect for and implementation of human rights under the rule of law, activities relating to the violations of human rights, and international standard-setting.

A great number of activities concerning the promotion and protection of human rights and the observance of the rule of law have taken place within the United Nations, pursuant to the consultative status enjoyed by ICJ with the Council. They have included making reports and oral and written interventions, lobbying governmental delegates and members of United Nations bodies in support of proposals put forward and attending United Nations Committee meetings.

The subjects covered have included the World Summit on Social Development; indigenous populations; principles for the protection of persons under any form of detention or imprisonment; enforced or involuntary disappearances; administrative detention; the elimination of racial discrimination; economic, social and cultural rights; human rights defenders; establishment of a permanent International Criminal Court; World Conference against Racism, elaboration of a set of principles for the protection and promotion of human rights through action to combat impunity, draft basic principles and guidelines on the right to reparation for victims of violations of human rights, and international humanitarian law and other situations of human rights violations.

Activities relevant to the work of the Council

Establishment of an International Criminal Court

The establishment of a permanent International Criminal Court (ICC) has been a key objective of ICJ for many years, and a number of activities were undertaken to lobby support and mobilize public opinion in this respect. In 1998, ICJ organized a joint round-table discussion in Geneva on Human Rights and International Criminal Prosecution: The Road to Rome. ICJ also hosted a meeting for the Steering Committee of the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court, which explored the practical arrangements for the Rome conference and the non-governmental organization strategy. Three briefing papers were prepared for the Rome conference. The ICJ's representative addressed the plenary conference, stating that the ICC should have jurisdiction over the three core crimes of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. ICJ issued a brief assessment of the Rome

Statute. In April 1999 a round-table discussion was organized to answer the questions relating to the aftermath of the Rome conference.

Follow-up to the World Summit on Social Development/Geneva 2000 Forum

ICJ participated actively in the special session of the General Assembly and the Geneva 2000 Forum, organized by the Swiss Government.

Indigenous populations

ICJ presented to the Commission on Human Rights in March 1999 the conclusions and recommendations of its mission to Mexico concerning the situation of human rights, with particular focus on the situation faced by indigenous communities in the states of Chiapas, Guerrero and Oaxaca. ICJ also distributed a document on the existing discrimination against indigenous and black people in Peru to members of the Commission on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Working Group on Drafting a Declaration on Human Rights Defenders

ICJ participated actively in the Working Group. It welcomed the adoption by consensus of the Declaration on the Rights of Human Rights Defenders and the appointment of the Special Rapporteur.

Economic, social and cultural rights

In October 1998, ICJ, together with its section in Colombia, organized a seminar in Medellin on economic, social and cultural rights. The seminar focused on subjects such as the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the justiciability of those rights. In 1999 ICJ organized a workshop on the draft optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, under the auspices of UNHCHR. Follow-up activities were organized later in the year, and a second workshop will be organized in February 2001. In 1997, ICJ published a compilation of essential documents on economic, social and cultural rights. It submitted a written statement to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth session, on "Human rights in the context of globalization". It made an oral intervention to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, urging States to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Rights of the child

In December 1999, ICJ organized a seminar in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on state reporting to the United Nations treaty bodies, with special focus on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Rapporteur of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Chairperson and Secretary of the Covenant attended the seminar as resource persons. In January 2000, ICJ made video recordings of the proceedings of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, along with interviews of the members of the Committee. The video record will be used as a training tool to familiarize Governments and non-governmental organizations alike on the working of the Committee in the Asia/Pacific region.

Enforced or involuntary disappearances

In May 1998, ICJ sent a letter to the Chairman of the United Nations Working Group on Enforced Disappearances concerning disappearances during the military dictatorship in Chile. ICJ was closely involved in the elaboration of a draft international convention on the protection of all persons from forced disappearance of the Subcommission's Working Group on Administration of Justice. In October 2000, ICJ organized a meeting addressed to the diplomatic missions in Geneva on the draft convention. In November 2000, ICJ submitted its comments on the draft convention to UNHCHR.

Administration of justice/independence of the judiciary and protection of lawyers

The ICJ's Centre for the Independence of Judges and Lawyers (CIJL) submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth session the preliminary findings of the CIJL's annual report, *Attacks on Justice*. In August 1998, two statements were delivered before the session of the Working Group on the Administration of Justice and the Question of Compensation on the subject of the proposed universal convention against forced disappearances. ICJ also delivered to the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fiftieth session a statement on the administration of justice in Peru and Tunisia. In August 2000, ICJ asked the Working Group on the Administration of Justice to start a study on the administration of justice in the military court.

Gross and systematic violations of human rights

On many occasions ICJ made oral and written interventions of situations with which it has been concerned, particularly to the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission (6-10 interventions per session).

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia

ICJ delivered oral interventions at the fifty-fourth, fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, to support the High Commissioner's report on Colombia and on the work of her office in Bogotá.

Right to reparation

During the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights, ICJ hosted two meetings on basic principles on reparation. A compilation of essential documents, "The right to reparation for victims of human rights violations", was published. It comprised, inter alia, the draft principles that were prepared by the Subcommission's former Special Rapporteur.

Impunity of human rights violations

In 1997 and 1998, ICJ contributed to the elaboration of the Set of Principles for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights through action to combat impunity, adopted by the Subcommission. At the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, ICJ organized a meeting on the Set of Principles.

World Conference on Racism and Racial Discrimination

ICJ participated actively in the ad hoc meetings in preparation of the forthcoming Conference which will be held in August 2001 in South Africa.

Diffusion of the jurisprudence of the treaty bodies and mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

In 2000, ICJ presented the *Amicus Curiae* and legal briefs before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the courts and authorities of Colombia, Peru and Argentina, explaining the jurisprudence and doctrine of the treaty bodies and mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights regarding impunity and the right to reparation.

Information

ICJ publishes an annual *Review* (in English, French and Spanish), an annual *CIJL Yearbook* in English, an annual report entitled "Attacks on Justice: The Harassment and Persecution of Judges and Lawyers" in English, and a quarterly report in English.

These contain as a regular feature reports of meetings of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission, the Human Rights Committee and of other United Nations meetings. Important United Nations documents are reproduced in full or in summary in the category "Basic texts" of the *ICJ Review* or as appendices to the *CIJL Yearbook*.

8. International Federation of Building and Wood Workers

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The International Federation of Building and Wood Workers (IFBWW) is an international trade union secretariat, established in 1934 by a merger of the Building Workers International and Wood Workers International. The International Secretariat of Stone Masons, the International Secretariat of Painters and Allied Trades, and the International Secretariat of Bricklayers have all subsequently joined the Federation.

IFBWW seeks to unite and represent all free and democratic trade unions in the building, wood, forestry and allied industries. It cooperates with the European and Nordic Federations of Building and Wood Workers and with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). It promotes the principles of international solidarity and is an active defender of human and trade union rights. IFBWW conducts activities in the field of workers' education and trade union development, coordinates international solidarity actions, carries out research on a wide range of industrial issues, represents its affiliates' interests at world meetings and conferences, has women's and youth programmes, and works to combat child labour.

The headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland. Regional Offices are in Panama for Latin America, Zimbabwe for Africa and Malaysia for Asia and Pacific. Sub-regional and Education Offices are located in Burkina Faso, Japan, Australia and India. In the Philippines (Quezon City), there is the IFBWW Philippine Affiliated

Program Office (IPAPO), in Lebanon (Beirut), there is the IFBWW Middle East Project Office, in Bulgaria (Sofia) there is the IFBWW Balkans Project Office.

IFBWW currently groups over 11 million members in 283 trade unions in 124 countries.

IFBWW is an officially recognized non-governmental organization for the building, wood, forestry and allied sectors within the International Labour Organization. It promotes its policy in international organizations such as the ILO, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), international environmental organizations, and regional and international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the World Trade Organization.

IFBWW played a lead role in discussions on and preparations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work. The Code was adopted on 30 September 1997 by an ILO meeting of experts on safety and health in forest work.

From 17 to 26 January 2000, in an effort to ensure higher international health and safety standards in the use of mineral fibres, IFBWW participated in the development and adoption by the ILO of a code of practice in the use of synthetic vitreous fibre insulation wools (glass wool, rock wool, slag wool).

IFBWW attended sessions of the ILO and in recent years played an active role in discussions on contract labour and maternity protection. A member of the secretariat staff participated in the Meeting of Experts on Situations Requiring Protection, in May 2000.

IFBWW also implemented a range of technical cooperation projects with the support of the ILO and also supported affiliates participating in large-scale ILO programmes. IFBWW will attend the following ILO sectoral meetings for both construction and forestry during 2001: Tripartite Meeting on the Social and Labour Dimensions of the Forestry and Woods Industries on the Move (17-21 September), and Tripartite Meeting on the Construction Industry in the 21st Century: Its Image, Employment Prospects and Skill Requirements (10-14 December).

IFBWW attended the following meetings in the reporting period:

- (a) Sixteenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements (Nairobi, 4-16 April 1997);
- (b) Commission on Sustainable Development (New York, 11-25 April 1997 and 19-30 April 1999);
- (c) Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 3-21 March 1997);
- (d) FAO Committee on Forestry (Rome, 3-13 March 1997);
- (e) FAO Eleventh World Forestry Congress (Antalya, 10-22 October 1997);
- (f) NGO Workshop on Human Rights and HIV/AIDS (Geneva, 26 June 1998);
- (g) Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (Geneva, 24 August to 4 September 1998, 3-13 May 1999, and New York, 31 January to 11 February 2000);
- (h) United Nations Seminar on Trade-related Aspects of Sustainable Management (Geneva, 23-25 February 1999);

- (i) FAO Committee on Forestry (Rome, 1-5 March 1999);
- (j) Fifteenth World Congress on Occupational Safety and Health (Sao Paulo, 12-16 April 1999);
- (k) International Tropical Timber Organization Council meeting (Changmai, 21-25 May 1999, and Peru, 24-30 May 2000);
- (l) AUVA/ILO Health and Safety in the Construction Industry in the 21st Century (Vienna, 6-8 October 1999);
- (m) Twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (Social Summit+5) (26-30 June 2000).

9. National Union of Jurists of Cuba

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The National Union of Jurists of Cuba (UNJC) is a social, non-profit non-governmental organization with the main purpose of gathering the jurists of the country (judges, prosecutors, lawyers, academicians, legal advisers, consultants, notary lawyers) so as to follow up and update their educational, professional, scientific and investigative level and provide for a better development of their activities. When the Union was granted consultative status, it had around 9,000 members, and now that number has increased to over 10,000 nationwide.

Participation in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

The National Union of Jurists of Cuba has played an active role through oral contributions to the discussions and in writing, with statements and other works delivered to the Secretariat in the following meetings:

- (a) Three sessions of the Commission on Human Rights (fifty-fourth, fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth), and intention to attend the fifty-seventh. The Union took part in the work related to civil and political, social, economic and cultural rights, the right to development and human rights violations;
- (b) The Millennium Summit meeting of non-governmental organizations, held in New York in 2000, where it presented a written contribution, in coordination with all of the Cuban non-governmental organizations, on the subject of democracy, human rights and peace and sovereignty;
- (c) In 1999 the Union participated in the meeting held in Rome to approve the Statute of the International Criminal Court, where it presented a written report on its criteria concerning the omission from the text of certain types of crimes and other considerations. Communication links were kept open with the Latin American coalition;
- (d) In the year 2000 UNJC also took part in the Latin American Meeting Against Racism, a preparatory event for the World Conference Against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. It has scheduled its participation at the Conference itself.

The Union's presence at other Commissions, Subcommissions and groups is limited because of financial constraints.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The National Union of Jurists of Cuba has systematically and actively cooperated with the following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies:

(a) UNDP, together with the Cuban Association of the United Nations. UNJC has organized and taken part in round-table discussions and conferences dealing with topics such as the democratization or reform of the United Nations, respect for international law, etc.;

(b) UNICEF. Joint studies have been conducted with UNICEF on a code for children and youth, children and international humanitarian law, international adoption, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, etc.;

(c) UNFPA. Conferences on the world's population, development, etc.;

(d) A great number of different activities have been successfully organized jointly with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Regional Red Cross Committee, located in Guatemala, the Cuban Red Cross and its International Humanitarian Law Center, to disseminate and train on various legal, military and medical subjects of national and international interest, together with the Cuban Ministry of the Interior;

(e) The Union held national and international courses and workshops. It participated in the visit to Cuba of the High Commissioner in 2000;

(f) UNESCO. Topics such as cultural assets and international humanitarian law, computer science and law, legal culture and ethics were the subject of conferences and meetings.

Other activities

Four national workshop-seminars were organized. Four international "Jean Piclec" commissions were established and awarded prizes. Over 45 works were presented. The first International Seminar on International Humanitarian Law was held and attended by more than 60 specialists from Central America, Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe. The second International Seminar has been announced for 19-22 September 2001.

Other relevant activities

The National Union of Jurists of Cuba has always taken the proper measures to implement the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, namely through statements, publications, conferences and other events aimed at disseminating them and making connections with other related groups. It is particularly concerned with resolutions on the following subjects:

Colonialism;

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Covenants on Civil and Political and Social, Economic and Cultural Rights;

The right to development;

The rights of the child, and women's rights.

10. Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association

Special consultative status granted in 1953

The Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA) was founded in 1928 to further the cause of peace by fostering friendships and the exchange of knowledge among women of the Pacific and South-East Asia region for the study and betterment of social, economic, and cultural conditions. PPSEAWA now has national member associations in 22 countries, an increase of three since the last quadrennial report. Three, in India, Pakistan, and Thailand, are separately accredited to the Council.

During the years 1997-2000, PPSEAWA representatives followed sessions of the General Assembly when appropriate; the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies in New York and Geneva; the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok; UNESCO in Paris; UNICEF in New York; and the weekly briefings for non-governmental organizations conducted in New York by the Department of Public Information. Representatives report orally at PPSEAWA meetings and in writing to officers, national presidents, and editors of the twice yearly *Bulletin*.

PPSEAWA was represented at the following United Nations conferences and meetings:

(a) Commission on the Status of Women (New York), annual sessions in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000. At the forty-fourth session (2000), PPSEAWA facilitated an all-day working meeting, with lunch, for the Asia-Pacific Women's Watch (APWW) on 3 March 2000;

(b) ESCAP (Bangkok), annual sessions in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000;

(c) Department of Public Information (United Nations Secretariat) (New York), annual conferences for non-governmental organizations, in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 (Millennium Summit for NGOs);

(d) NGO consultations before each session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 1997, 1998 1999 and 2000;

(e) NGO Committee on UNICEF, monthly meetings (New York) in 1998, 1999 and 2000. The PPSEAWA representative is Recording Secretary;

(f) NGO Committee on UNICEF, Working Group on Girls (New York), regular meetings in 1998, 1999 and 2000;

(g) UNIFEM, receptions for members of the examining Committee on Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New York), January and July, in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000;

- (h) NGO Committee on UNIFEM, regular meetings in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000;
- (i) NGO Committee on the Status of Women (Geneva), regular meetings in 1998, 1999 and 2000;
- (j) Opening of the Assembly of WHO and NGO Forum (Geneva), in 1998, 1999 and 2000;
- (k) Meetings of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Geneva), in 1998, 1999 and 2000;
- (l) Observance of the International Day of Indigenous Peoples (Geneva), in 1998, 1999 and 2000;
- (m) United Nations/Geneva information meeting for non-governmental organizations, in November 1999 and 2000;
- (n) International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, in 1999 and 2000;
- (o) Observance of the International Day of Older Persons (Geneva), in 1999 and 2000;
- (p) CONGO, triennial General Assembly (Geneva) 1997, (Vienna) 2000. At the Vienna Assembly, PPSEAWA was elected to the Board of Directors;
- (q) CONGO Board meetings (observer, Geneva, June 1999 and New York, February 2000; member, Vienna, 2000);
- (r) United Nations Hospitality Committee, annual lecture on protocol for spouses of new diplomats, and annual lecture of the Department of Public Information on protocol as part of orientation programme for new non-governmental organizations: lectures were given by PPSEAWA member, former Chief of Protocol, United States Mission;
- (s) UNESCO, with Russian Academy of Administration, third meeting (Moscow) 22-26 January 1997;
- (t) Sub-Group on NGOs of the High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations system, 5 February 1997;
- (u) Commission for Social Development (New York), 1997;
- (v) Observance of the International Day of the Family (New York), 8 May 1997;
- (w) Special session of the General Assembly on sustainable development (New York), 23-27 June 1997;
- (x) UNESCO Conference on Literacy and Education for All (Hamburg), 14-18 July 1997;
- (y) ESCAP/NGO Forum on Social Development in Asia and the Pacific (Kuala Lumpur), 8-10 September 1997;
- (z) Convention of Women's Associations: "Women, Bridges for a Better Tomorrow" (Guam), April 1998;

- (aa) NGO meeting on shadow reports on implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (New York) 1 June 1998;
- (bb) Association of South-East Asian Nations, annual meeting (Singapore), 16-19 June 1998;
- (cc) Seminar and Follow-Up on Implementation of Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing), June, 1998;
- (dd) UNESCO Triennial Meeting for NGOs (Paris), November 1998;
- (ee) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women shadow report for Thailand, presented January 1999; PPSEAWA/ESCAP representative chaired the project;
- (ff) Asia-Pacific Regional NGO Planning Meeting (Manila), May 1999;
- (gg) Regional hearing on the United Nations in the twenty-first century: issues, challenges and responses (Japan), 9-10 August 1999;
- (hh) Asia-Pacific Regional Symposium, Kasetsart University (NakomPathorn, Thailand); co-hosted by PPSEAWA and Thai Women's Watch, 31 August-4 September 1999;
- (ii) Launch of International Year for a Culture of Peace and of International Day of Peace (Bangkok), 9-10 September 1999;
- (jj) ESCAP regional hearing preparatory to the United Nations Millennium Assembly (Tokyo) 9-10 September 1999;
- (kk) International Conference on the Role of NGOs in the twenty-first century (Seoul), 10-15 October 1999;
- (ll) ESCAP regional intergovernmental meeting, preparatory to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (Bangkok), 26-29 October 1999;
- (mm) ILO Asian Regional Consultation (Manila), October 1999;
- (nn) ESCAP Ministerial Meeting on Social Development (Bangkok), 1-5 November 1999;
- (oo) WHO International Conference on Tobacco and Health (Kobe), 14-18 November 1999;
- (pp) Tenth Kitakyushu Forum for Asian Women (Kokura), November 1999;
- (qq) Local meeting for non-governmental organizations to discuss implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (Chicago), 6 December 1999;
- (rr) Preparatory Committee for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, 3-18 March 2000: PPSEAWA facilitated an all-day working session, with lunch, for the Asia-Pacific Women's Watch on 3 March;
- (ss) International Social Service Open Day and Seminar (Geneva), May 2000;
- (tt) UNICEF Conference on the Global Movement for Children (New York), 29 May-2 June 2000;

(uu) Twenty-third special session of the General Assembly: Beijing + 5 (New York), 5-9 June 2000. PPSEAWA joined the Global Association for Women's Health in sponsoring an all-day non-governmental organization meeting on women's health at Hunter College on 7 June;

(vv) Special session of the General Assembly on the World Summit for Social Development, and NGO Forum (Geneva) 21-26 June 2000. PPSEAWA and the International Council of Women co-sponsored a meeting "Women in development" on 22 June;

(ww) Sixth World Conference on Education for Peace (Marly-le-Roi, France), 8-13 July 2000;

(xx) 2000 Pacific Basin Conference (Honolulu), 27 July-3 August 2000;

(yy) Second Meeting of States Parties to the Mine-Ban Convention (Ottawa Convention), (Geneva), September 2000;

(zz) Tripartite Information Video Conference, with United Nations/New York, United Nations/Geneva, and Chicago United Nations office, October 2000. PPSEAWA United Nations representative was asked to formulate a sixth question, to be used if time permitted.

Beginning in 1996 and continuing into 2000, PPSEAWA held a series of workshops, meetings, and seminars on health issues of women and children. The meetings were sponsored by UNESCO and WHO, with funding from Air France and Nestle, S.A.

11. Union of Arab Jurists

Special consultative status granted in 1977

The Union of Arab Jurists is a non-governmental organization with headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq.

The Union of Arab Jurists aims at accomplishing liberation of the Arab homeland politically and economically and works for its unity. The Union defends human rights and works for securing them legally. The Union tries to strengthen the ties between the Arab jurists and their counterparts elsewhere in the world. It works on preserving the Islamic jurisprudence.

The Union of Arab Jurists carried out a number of activities from 1997 to 2000, in fields supporting the Charter of the United Nations, realizing its objectives in the legal field, defending human rights and combating racial discrimination. It is a member of the NGO Section on Human Rights at UNESCO and of the Special Committee of NGOs on Disarmament, and is an observer with UNICEF.

The Union of Arab Jurists has a distinguished history of defending human rights, world peace, disarmament and racial discrimination. It submitted proposals, research and studies to the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. It held a symposium in Baghdad, attended by senior specialists in the law and intellectual personalities, devoted to teaching humanitarian law.

The Union of Arab Jurists celebrated the following international occasions by issuing communiqués and publishing articles:

- (a) International Day of Women (8 March);
- (b) Anniversary of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations (26 June);
- (c) United Nations Day (24 October);
- (d) Universal Declaration of Human Rights (10 December). The Union issued statements to draw the attention of the public to the human rights and basic issues of freedom.

In the past four years, the Union secretariat held meetings annually in the field of defending human rights. The meetings discussed issues of peace, security and human rights in the world.

The Union of Arab Jurists participated in international and regional conferences and seminars on human rights, security, environment and child welfare. The Union also prepared papers and studies.

1997

The Commissioner of the Union of Arab Jurists attended the fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights and the forty-ninth session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

1998

The Union took part in the fiftieth session of the Subcommission and in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission.

1999

The Union took part in the fifty-fifth session of the Commission and participated as an observer in the committee elaborating a convention on transnational crime (Vienna, 28 June to 9 July 1999). It also took part in the fifty-first session of the Subcommission.

2000

The Commissioner of the Union of Arab Jurists attended an information session for non-governmental organizations (Geneva, 27-28 October 2000). He participated in the International Conference on Prevention of Racial Discrimination (Addis Ababa, 4-6 October).

The Union of Arab Jurists attended the annual consultative meetings for non-governmental organizations, and also participated in many legal, social and humanitarian conferences and symposia relating to propagating the doctrines of the United Nations and human rights and fostering world peace. The Union cooperated with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies as well as with other non-governmental organizations such as the World Peace Council, the International Commission of Jurists, and the Center for Justice and International Law.